



# Andhra Pradesh Library Association

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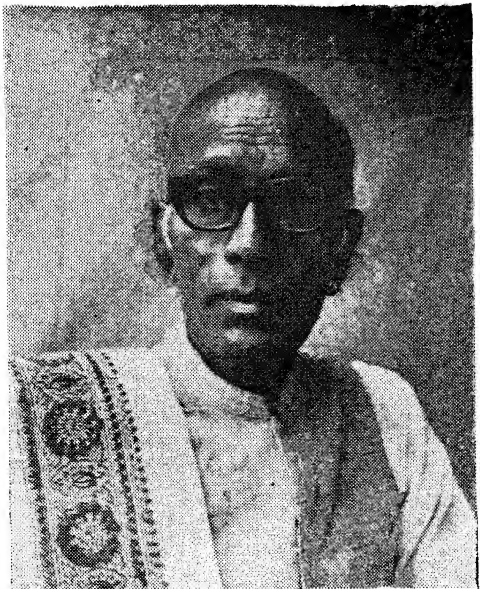
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Padmasri Iyyanki Venkataramanaiah  
(Founder-Secretary, A.D.L.A.)



Kalaprapurna Paturi Nagabhushanam  
(Secretary of A.D.L.A. since 1938)





TO

MY GRANDPARENTS

Who faced the cruel fortunes of life with fortitude, resoluteness and genuine companionship, and showed to me the joy of human affection and love.



## FOREWORD

The publication of Smt. K. Sarada's book on 'Andhra Pradesh Library Association' will be welcomed by scholars and laypersons, who are interested in the progress of library movement. The organisation of professional associations at local, regional and national levels is a significant factor that earns distinction and status to any profession. Library associations are instrumental in promoting library resources and services and thus uphold the image of librarianship. It is acknowledged that in modern society active participation in the activities of professional association is an index of professional achievement. Library associations are mediating agencies between the society and members of library profession. In some of the countries like the United States, United Kingdom, etc.; library associations have acquired strong support base and professional identity. In our country, we have a large number of State and National library associations. But their impact on society and library profession is not significant. How can we understand and improve this situation? Partly, this problem is examined by Smt. Sarada in her book.

Andhra Pradesh Library Association (formerly Andhra Desa Library Association, 1914) is perhaps the oldest professional association in our country. In addition to its longevity, the A.P.L.A. advocated a unique concept of librarianship. From its inception, it directed the services of librarianship to the advancement of rural people. It linked librarianship with processes of social and economic transformation of society. Its techniques of librarianship are a judicious amalgam of the

## FOREWORD

traditional cultural media and modern scientific aids. It tapped the local resources and talents for the development of librarianship. It played a pioneering role in organising library science educational programmes and in producing vernacular literature in library science. Undoubtedly, A.P.L.A. is an illustrious association. My good old friends Padmasri Iyyanki Venkata Ramanayya and Kalaprapurna Paturi Nagabhushanam are the guiding stars of this association.

Smt. Sarada's book is an excellent account of the history and activities of the A.P.L.A. She gave a brief sketch of the American Library Association and the Library Association of United Kingdom. An outline of the Indian Library Association is presented. The history, development and activities of the A.P.L.A. is gathered from diverse source materials. She traced the development of the A.P.L.A. as an integral part of the socio-economic and cultural evolution of modern Andhra. She approached her subject with a rare measure of objectivity and critical outlook. This is a model piece of research work in the field of the study of library associations in India.

Her work contains a wealth of ideas and insightful observations on the problems and prospects of library associations in India. This study suggests a cluster of concepts based on the rich experience of Andhra library movement, which may be integrated and fashioned into a new model of library profession. This is worthy of serious consideration by the policy makers and national leaders who are struggling to steer the course of socio-economic development in the developing world. She argues with great persuasion that librarianship is one of the complementary agents to foster development in the third world. I recollect the interesting facts and arguments that Smt. Sarada presented in her paper: 'Library Facilities for women in

## FOREWORD

Andhra Pradesh Public Library System,' (Indian Librarian, Vol. 31, No.1, June 1976, pp. 33-39) to bring out the social utility of librarianship.

This book is a welcome addition to the scanty literature on library associations in India. I earnestly hope and wish that the history of the development and activities of the various State Library Associations in our country will soon be available in order to develop a profile of comparative library movement in India. I am sure that this book will prove to be a stimulating tract to scholars in library science and leaders and members of library associations.

SANT RAM BHATIA

President

Punjab Library Association, and  
Editor, Indian Librarian

Dt. 18-2-1978



## PREFACE

This essay is a revised and enlarged version of the Masters' Degree Dissertation (Library Science) which was submitted to the University of Mysore in 1974. The aim of this Dissertation is to evaluate the role of Andhra Pradesh Library Association in promoting public library movement and librarianship. In evaluating the role of the Association, developmental method is followed. Data is collected from the Primary sources like the constitution, Rules and Regulations of the Association, its Annual Reports, Proceedings and Resolutions of the Conferences, 'Grandhalaya Sarvaswamu' (the official organ of the Association) and other publications of the Association. Books and Articles are also used as secondary sources.

This is a study of the history and activities of the Andhra Pradesh Library Association as a professional organisation, and also an assessment of its accomplishments in the frame work of its professed aims and objectives and the socio-economic political matrix of Andhra Desa. The First Chapter is a theoretical overview of the professional associations and a descriptive account of the Library Association (U.K.), American Library Association and Indian Library Association. The Second Chapter sets out the social, economic and political background of Andhra (as a backdrop for the Association), and traces the historical development of the Association. The Third Chapter gives an account of the manifold and inspiring activities and programmes of the Association. The Fourth Chapter while attempting a critical assessment of the Association, brings out a cluster of concepts and ideas which suggest a novel



## PREFACE

model of library profession based on the experiences of Andhra Library movement.

Andhra library movement is a truly indigenous development and people's movement. It is a unique movement both in conception and exceptional longevity. It played a pioneering role in fostering Professional Associations, promoting library education and Professional Periodicals and literature, and enriching library profession in India. Above all, it upheld a new concept of library profession which has relevance to the librarianship in developing countries. Padmasri Sri Iyyanki Venkata Ramanayya and Kalaprapurna Sri Paturi Naga-bhushanam have nurtured and shaped the Andhra library movement. I had the benefit of valuable guidance and criticisms of Sri Iyyanki and Sri Paturi in writing the Dissertation. However, I am responsible for errors of fact and judgment. I deem it as a privilege that Andhra University (which is perhaps the first tangible achievement of Andhra Mahasabha and Andhrodyamam) in its Golden Jubilee year has published my Dissertation on Andhra Pradesh Library Association.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The research proposal for my Masters' Degree Dissertation on Andhra Pradesh Library Association was finalised with the help and guidance of Prof. P. K. Patil, Head of the Department of Postgraduate Studies in Library Science, University of Mysore; I am grateful to him for his encouragement and help. Sri H. A. Khan, Reader, Department of Postgraduate Studies in Library Science, University of Mysore, has supervised my Dissertation; I am obliged to him for his careful and valuable suggestions and criticisms. Sri Iyyanki Venkata Ramanayya, Founder-Secretary of A. D. L. A., has been a source of inspiration for me in my research studies. He spared his valuable time and discussed with me at length some of the significant problems. He read the Dissertation with great care and offered helpful criticisms and suggestions. Sri Paturi Nagabhushanam, Secretary of A. P. L. A., gave me access to the Documents and Records of the Association and shared his experiences with me. He spared his precious time, read the Dissertation and offered his comments. I am deeply grateful to Sri Iyyanki and Sri Paturi for their affectionate and substantial help to me. Sri Velaga Venkattappayya read the Dissertation and offered most detailed comments and saved me from many errors; I thank him for his kind help. Sri Tekumalla Ramachandra Rao gave me some of the Reprints of his Articles and appraised the character of Andhra Desa Library Field Workers' Association.

I thank Sri K. Siva Reddy, my former teacher and Head, Department of Library Science, Andhra University, for his encouragement and keen interest in the

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

progress of my studies. I am obliged to Prof. K. Ramakrishna Rao, Head, Department of Psychology and Parapsychology, my former teacher and former Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Andhra University, for his encouragement and help in securing financial assistance to publish my Dissertation. I thank Prof. K.V. Sivayya, Principal, College of Arts, Andhra University, for his encouragement. I am grateful to Sri Sant Ram Bhatia, President of the Punjab Library Association, for kindly contributing Foreword.

I am deeply grateful to Sri M. R. Apparow, Vice-Chancellor, Andhra University, who gave me an opportunity to pursue academic interests and evinced remarkable interest in my studies. I thank Sri M. Gopalakrishna Reddy, Registrar, Andhra University, for his help and encouragement. I am grateful to Andhra University, for the sanction of grant to publish my Dissertation. I have received help and guidance from many persons and I record my debt of gratitude to all of them.

—K. Sarada

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

A.D.L.A.	Andhra Desa Library Association
A.I.P.L.A.	All India Public Library Association
A.L.A.	American Library Association
A.P.L.A.	Andhra Pradesh Library Association
I.A.S.L.I.C.	Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centres
I.L.A.	Indian Library Association
L.A.	Library Association (United Kingdom)
M.L.A.	Madras Library Association
N.A.	Not Available
S.I.A.E.A.	South Indian Adult Education Association



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## LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS

### ASSOCIATIONS—THEIR FUNCTIONS AND ROLE

An association is a group of persons united for a common or shared purpose or several purposes with a formal organisation. An association may refer to a body of persons or an institution (e.g., 'the Indian Library Association').<sup>1</sup>

Aristotle gave a classic formulation of the general character of associations and how they emanate from and fulfill human nature. According to him, "... all associations are instituted for the purpose of attaining some good - for all men do all their acts with a view to achieving something which is, in their view, a good."<sup>2</sup> Men in search of the means to realise the potentiality of human nature (for Greeks 'good' is the fulfillment of the nature of a thing, e.g., speed is the nature of horse, sharpness is the nature of sword, etc.) establish associations. Associations enable men to realise their nature. Thus, there is an umbilical cord between persons and associations. The decline of Greek culture (City State) coupled with the vast economic, social and political



changes, abruptly terminated the development of associations in ancient world. Craft guilds and corporations flourished in Medieval Europe. But the guilds were occupational groups with compulsory or hereditary membership. They did not have the basic attributes of modern associations. In ancient and medieval Eastern cultures, man has always been considered as a member of a group. Man as an individual was very less known. Hence, associations were practically absent, despite the presence of some economic and political organisations such as 'sreni' (trade guild) and 'gana' (self-governing tribal community). Thus, the origin and development of associations is linked with the modern industrial society.

We note five factors that helped the establishment of associations: (1) Associations become more common and important as societies develop industrial culture. New technology, increased wealth and diversified life-styles, create new professional groups, and roles and relationships, and promote new associations and contacts among people. (2) As the primitive and feudal structures decline, primordial loyalties and affections such as caste solidarity, community life, even family bonds are weakened. Thus, the industrial man, separated from traditional values and institutions, seeks and builds new structures to develop his personality. (3) Increased urbanisation pushes people to form associations. Anonymity and loneliness of city life, weakening of community spirit have compelled people to seek new associations even for recreational activities (e.g., clubs of various kinds) in cities. (4) The legal right of individuals to form associations for promotion of specific purposes which they share and value, is an essential condition for the growth of associations. The citizens of India have a fundamental right to form associations.<sup>3</sup> (5) The development of individualism (autonomous person) and pluralistic vision of society (society is a congeries of associations—occupational, religious, social, political, etc.), which believes that associations enable men to realise their personality, also support the growth of associations. Thus, associations gain significance in modern

society.

The term association is used to designate a cluster of institutions which are found in modern society. Hence, a common definition of association is difficult. But it shares three essential elements. An association is an organised body of persons: (1) it is established to promote some common interests of its members; (2) its membership is voluntary, i.e., membership is neither compulsory nor acquired by birth; and (3) it is independent of the state. Such a general description allows for exceptions. Many associations are registered bodies and to that extent subject to State control. Furthermore, in the case of some professional associations (e.g., labour unions and professional bodies) membership may be compulsory in the sense it is a condition of employment.

Described in this broad way, associations are non-state bodies such as labour unions, clubs, cooperatives, political parties, professional groups like medical, legal, etc. Associations enrich the life of society and individuals.

Different principles are followed in the classification of associations. Each principle is useful for a particular purpose. Associations may be classified on the basis of membership (age, sex and occupation). This is useful to identify the chief clientele groups of associations and change the programmes of associations to serve the members with greater attention. Or, associations may be classified in terms of their functional objectives, such as religious; social and recreational; economic and occupational; professional; cultural and educational; political; social service, etc. We may distinguish between the 'federation-type' organisations (with affiliated branches of an association in a region, country, or many countries), and 'corporate-type' organisations (centralised) to study problems of administration and organisational structure of the associations.

More commonly associations are divided into two categories: professional and non-professional bodies. As the designation suggests, the non-professional associa-

tions are general in nature and promote organised activities in social, political, religious and recreational services.

## PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

### Library Associations

Professional associations are restricted bodies in the sense that access to membership is conditioned by professional training and interests. As pointed out by Lundy, Frank, "standards of training, performance, ideals of service, personal responsibility"<sup>4</sup> are basic ingredients of membership of professional associations. Paton, William B. has adapted from Lewis, Roy and Maude, Angus. ('Professional People') six attributes of professional associations and explained how library associations may be called professional associations. These are: "(1) A body of knowledge (science) as a common possession and extended by united effort; (2) A standard of conduct based on courtesy, honour and ethics which guides the practitioner in the profession in relation with clients, colleagues and the public; (3) An educational process based on the body of knowledge in ordering which the professional group has a recognized responsibility; (4) A standard of educational qualifications for admission to the professional group based on character, training, and proved competence; (5) Recognition of status by one's colleague or by the State as a basis of good standing; (6) Organisation of the professional group devoted to its common advancement and its social duty rather than the maintenance of an economic monopoly."<sup>5</sup>

This is an excellent analysis of the basic attributes of professional associations.

Librarianship is based on a well demarcated branch of theoretical knowledge comprising classification, cataloguing, reference and bibliographic services, etc. Since librarianship is service-oriented profession, a code of

conduct is *sine qua non* for library profession. Library associations and librarianship (as a practical activity) play significant role in ordering and promoting education for librarianship. It is true that trained and qualified librarians have special status in library profession. But library associations (e.g., the Library Association of United Kingdom, the American Library Association, etc.) admit laymen as members. To this extent, the fourth principle of Paton is not strictly observed by the library associations. Status is accorded to a person in library profession by colleagues and government by virtue of professional competence, integrity and devotion. Improvement of library services and thus promotion of social interest is the primary objective of library profession, even though the economic interests of library personnel are not neglected by the library associations. Library associations draft and approve Codes of Conduct for library personnel. Thus, library associations fulfil all the essential attributes of a professional association. Librarianship is a distinct and distinguished profession in modern society.<sup>6</sup> Librarianship is a tool for public service and national development. The need for organised and guided information and reading materials, bibliographic services, has increased in democratic and increasingly scientific oriented societies.

Professional associations protect and promote the interests of respective professions. Library associations are professional bodies which aim to improve library science instructional programmes, frame standards of library services and safeguard the interests of library profession. While Paton presented an incisive analysis of the attributes of professional associations in general, Jain, T. C. gave a detailed list of the objectives of library associations as noted below :

- “(1) To unite all persons engaged or interested in library profession ;
- (2) To promote library service and the interest of the profession ;
- (3) To do publicity for librarianship by organising

- book exhibitions, lectures, etc. ;
- (4) To arrange for librarians lectures, seminars, conferences, colloquiums, etc., on library science ;
  - (5) To work for the improvement of professional prestige and working conditions of librarians ;
  - (6) To work for the adoption of library acts ;
  - (7) To create and publish professional literature ;
  - (8) To conduct study and research for the advancement of library science, and enhance professional education by establishing proper training institutes ;
  - (9) To promote bibliographical research and issue bibliographical publications ;
  - (10) To study latest ideas of library science such as library automation now-a-days ;
  - (11) To bring its members into close relations with one another, with government, eminent persons in other fields, and members of the other library associations at national and international levels ;
  - (12) To work for the standardisation of catalogue codes, classification schemes and other practices ;
  - (13) To work for the standardisation of the library requisites, e. g., furniture, stationery, etc. ;
  - (14) To find out solutions for the ad hoc professional problems.”<sup>7</sup>

Paton's attributes describe or define an association. Jain, T.C. gives a comprehensive summary of the objectives to be pursued by library associations. By creating opportunity for the meeting of librarians in seminars, conferences, etc., library associations foster professional concern, identity and interests among librarians, and facilitates exchange of ideas, interpersonal action, etc. Associations safeguard the interests of librarianship by united efforts. Associations are agents of publicity and research activity. They are information centres for librarianship. They promote library legislation, and help standardisation of some tools of librarianship such as catalogue codes, classification schemes, etc. Thus, associations play significant role in fostering and promoting library profession.

Both the sets of attributes given by Paton and Jain,



help us in assessing whether a particular association is professional or not.

There are different types of library associations with varied functions and aims, which specialise in one or several aspects of library profession. At the outset, we may note that there are international bodies, such as The International Federation of Library Associations, The International Federation for Documentation, etc., which work at international level; and national associations like the Indian Library Association, the American Library Association, etc., which deal with all aspects of library profession at national level. Again, there are associations for one category of libraries, such as the Association of College and Research libraries in the United States. There are associations which are interested in one subject, e.g., the Association of Music Libraries in the United States. Similarly, associations may specialise in one function (e.g., the Association of Cataloguers in United States). Thus, we find different types of library associations with varied interests and specialisations.

The most illustrious, well-organised and conducted, and relatively old library associations are: (1) The American Library Association, 1876; (2) The Library Association of United Kingdom, 1877; (3) The Japan Library Association, 1895; and (4) The Association des Biblio-thecaires Francairs, 1906. A brief account of the Library Association (U.K.) and American Library Association and Indian Library Association (1933) is given as a background for the study of our subject proper. This is provided with the hope that it will help us to identify the problems and issues in the growth and working of library associations, and give a comparative perspective to assess the success and failures of the Andhra Pradesh Library Association.

Library associations in U.K. and U.S.A. are integral parts of social development. Truly they are voluntary associations. In both the countries, library associations have evolved in the context of social growth which was stimulated by industrialisation and felt needs. Also,

library associations have fulfilled useful role in consolidating and sustaining the scientific and technological changes. Hence, these associations have strong professional identity and commitment, and unique character. We find, the growth of library associations marched hand-in-hand with societal development; and the functional utility of these bodies has enriched the society. This is the true character of Anglo-American library associations.

### THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION (U. K.)

The Library Association was founded at the first international conference of librarians held in London Institution, Finsbury Circus, London, on the 5th October, 1877. Nicholson, F. W. B. played a significant role in establishing this Association. The establishment of the American Library Association (1876) indirectly inspired and encouraged the formation of Library Association.<sup>8</sup> The Association was formed :

(1) To unite all persons engaged in library work, for promoting the best possible administration of existing libraries and formation of new libraries; (2) "... the establishment and propagation of general standards in librarianship;"<sup>9</sup> and (3) encourage bibliographical research.

Any person or institution of any country who is interested or engaged in library work is eligible for membership. The constitution of the Association (1889) introduced corporate membership with voting rights. The Association obtained Royal Charter of incorporation on the 29th March, 1895. Thus, it emerged as the officially recognised representative body of library profession. In this capacity, it could own property and initiate legal proceedings. The Royal Charter set out the following as the objectives of the Association :

"(1) To unite all persons engaged or interested in library work, by holding conferences and meetings for discussion of bibliographical questions and matters

affecting libraries or their regulation or management or otherwise ;

(2) To promote better administration of libraries ;

(3) To promote whatever may tend to the improvement of position and the qualification of librarians ;

(4) To promote the adoption of public libraries acts in any city, borough or other district within the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland ;

(5) To promote the establishment of reference and lending libraries for use by the public ;

(6) To watch any legislation affecting public libraries, and to assist in the promotion of further legislation as may be considered necessary for the regulation and management or extension of public libraries ;

(7) To promote and encourage bibliographical study and research ;

(8) To form, collect, and collate and publish (in the form of transactions, journals or otherwise) information of service or interest to the fellows and members of the association, or for the promotion of the objects of the corporation ;

(9) To collect and maintain a Library and a Museum ;

(10) To hold examinations in librarianship and to issue certificates of efficiency ;

(11) To do all such lawful things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects."<sup>10</sup>

In the early period, the Library Association was a liberal body mainly interested in scholarly and bibliographic studies. We notice radical changes in the objectives of the Library Association in 1895. In fact, the Royal Charter of 1895 mirrors the transformation of Library Association into a fullfledged professional association. The Library Association is interested in uniting librarians in conferences, promoting public libraries and library legislation, conducting library education programmes, protecting the economic interests of librarians, etc. These improved objectives rightly earned the status of professional association for the Library Association.



The Fellowship of Library Association was established in 1885, along with the professional examination and certificate of efficiency. The status of fellowship was an incentive for growth of membership, for it is both an honour and qualification for employment in libraries. The rapid structural changes in the local government institutions and the growth of public libraries and the consequent increase of municipal librarians and town councillors on the membership of the Library Association, largely changed the character and purposes of the Association. The Report of the Special Development Committee (1926) under the leadership of Savage, E.A. suggested radical changes both in the structure and objectives of the Association. Some of these proposals were incorporated into the bye-laws of the Association in 1929. The most significant changes were :

- (1) Classified status of members as librarians, students and laymen ; (2) Graded subscription rates for membership based on the income of members ; and
- (3) Library Association is identified as a learned society and specified sections are given representation on the Council of the Association.

These changes were incorporated in response to the development of society, and also to make the Association more professionally oriented.

### Structure :

The Association has twelve Branches or Regions. The activities of each Branch are managed by an elected committee. Each Branch receives financial assistance from the Association. The Association has several Sections and Groups (e.g., Association of Assistant Librarians, Medical Section ; University and Research Section ; Reference and Special Section ; Youth Libraries Section ; County Libraries Section, etc.) which specialise in one type of activity or service or clientel's requirements of librarianship. In fact all the major and substantive activities of the Association are conducted by these Sections. The ability of the Association to feel

and assess the need for library services in new areas or for new clientele groups (children, youth, prisoners), as well as the innovative and programme designing capacity of the Association, is largely an outcome of the professional zeal and service motivation of these Sections and Groups. The framework of regional Branches and special Sections are designed to provide adequate opportunities for members of the Association to participate in professional activities.

The Association is managed by the Council which is an elected body, comprising elected representatives of all Branches and Sections. The Council is concerned with all matters relating to librarianship and library science. The council convenes Annual Conferences. It appoints the Standing Committees of the Association.

## **Activities**

### **(A) LEGISLATION**

The Association played a significant role in the growth of library legislation dealing with the public libraries. The Act of 1892 (which consolidated all the previous acts) is largely shaped by the Association. The Association accomplished the removal of penny-rate limitation in 1919. The Council of Library Association has prepared in 1943 guidelines for amending library legislation. The Association rendered help to the Department of Education and Science to prepare a statement of interpretation and classification of the Public Libraries and Museums Act, 1964. It has submitted a series of suggestions for the revised Model Bye-Laws of the 1964 Act, at the request of the Department of Education and Science.

### **(B) EDUCATION FOR LIBRARIANSHIP**

The Library Association exercises unique control on education for librarianship. In 1885, the Association commenced its examination system and issued certifi-

cates of efficiency. It maintains a register of chartered librarians. The Association has accredited the degrees in librarianship awarded by British universities, other than London University. This is a very noteworthy feature which has enabled the association to maintain very high standards in library education. The Association directs changes in the content of library education. It conducts 'National Examination' in library science. All Library Schools, except the School of Librarianship in London University, train candidates for the 'National Examination' of the Association. The Association has incomparable hold on library education. This is partly due to the status of Fellowship of the Association and partly on account of the historical role of the Association in prescribing syllabi, holding examinations and issuing certificate of efficiency for chartered librarians since 1885.

### (C) OTHER ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSOCIATION

The Association is actively involved in the development of Academic libraries, College libraries, Youth library services; county libraries and Prison and Hospital libraries, etc. It has issued several Reports and Pamphlets on the improvement of library services in these libraries.

The Association is interested in improving the service conditions, professional integrity and discipline, and scales of pay for the library personnel.<sup>11</sup> It circulated special study reports on these problems. It has a negotiating machinery to help the implementation of its recommendations at several levels of library service.

The Association has an excellent tradition of public relations policy to project the image of library profession across the society. It is attentive to the public queries, and avails all opportunities to publicise the significance of library services in modern society. It maintains a full-time press and publicity officer.

The Association has representation on several international bodies, like the UNESCO and IFLA. Its dele-

legates attend the annual conference of IFLA. The Association administers a programme of internships for the candidates of Commonwealth countries.

The Association conducts research studies to improve library services. It publishes books, pamphlets, book lists, special subject lists, periodicals, reprints, etc., to promote library profession and serve its members. It publishes several outstanding publications: 'Library Association Record (Monthly),' 'British Humanities Index' (formerly 'Subject index to Periodicals),' 'British Technological Index,' 'British Education Index,' 'Library and information Science Abstracts' (Bi-monthly), 'Journal of librarianship' (Quarterly), 'The Year Book,' and 'Conference Proceedings and Statistics of Public Libraries' (Yearly).<sup>12</sup>

In this way, we find the Library Association is an outstanding professional organisation. It maintains a high level of professional identity, integrity and discipline. Several factors account for the remarkable role of the Library Association. Firstly, its members have high degree of professional commitment. Secondly, its organisation is flexible and capable of adopting changes to meet the societal developments. Thirdly, library profession has grown as an integral part of social development in Britain, and has fulfilled a widely felt need in the society.

## AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Let us have a brief sketch of the American Library Association, the oldest, largest and perhaps, the most powerful library association in the world. It was founded on the 6th October, 1876. The prime promoter of this great institution was Dewey, Melvil. It was formed "for the purpose of promoting the library interests of the country by exchanging views, reaching conclusions, and inducing co-operation in all departments of bibliothecal science and economy; by disposing the public mind to the founding and improving of libraries; and by cultivating goodwill among its members."<sup>13</sup> It



is delightful to note that Muller, Max, the great orientalist, writing anonymously in the 'Academy' (London, 18th March, 1876), suggested an international conference of librarians, and an American reprint of Muller's Article in 'Publisher's Weekly' (22nd April, 1876) inspired the Philadelphia Conference which christened the A.L.A.<sup>14</sup> The foundation of A.L.A. took place in a propitious period when public libraries increased in size and numbers. We note that in the period of 25 years preceding 1875, 2,240 public libraries came into being in U.S.A.<sup>15</sup> The growth of A.L.A. paralleled with the expansion of public libraries and library services. It was incorporated on the 10th December 1879, under the laws of Massachusetts. The constitution of A.L.A. provides that "The object of A.L.A. shall be to promote library service and librarianship."<sup>16</sup> From the beginning, A.L.A. cultivated high professional goals, mission and work.

The triennial Special Scrutiny Committee (1939) suggested that more authority may be delegated to Divisions; 20% of A.L.A.'s income may be given to the Divisions; and graded scale of fees for members according to their income. These proposals were accepted by the A.L.A. The amendment adopted in 1942 to the charter provides that the promotion of library interests all over the world is a concern of A.L.A.

### Membership

Any person who is interested in library service and libraries is eligible for membership in the A.L.A., on payment of prescribed fees. Libraries, library trustees and friends of library service can become members. It has no geographical limits. The members are classified as:

(1) Personal Members—(a) Librarian Members; (b) Student Members, etc.;

(2) Chapter Members (State and Regional Library Associations);

(3) Organisation Members—(a) Libraries and Library Schools; (b) All other non-profit organisations; and

#### (4) Special Members.

The A.L.A. has the largest membership among the library associations in the world.

### Structure

The Council is the governing body of A.L.A. It has approximately 200 members. These are partly elected by the Association, and other members comprise the Presidents of Divisions, Chairmen of A.L.A. Committees, Representatives of State Chapters and Affiliated Organisations.

The Executive Board consisting of elected officers, immediate past president of A.L.A., and eight elected members, acts on behalf of the Council and administers policies and programmes. It manages the affairs of A.L.A. and is responsible to the Council.

Article 6 of the A.L.A. constitution provides for the establishment of Divisions to promote specialised services and create varied and suitable programmes for members.

The Association has 14 Divisions: five by 'Type-of-Library,' and nine by 'Type-of-Activity.'

The special Library Divisions are:

- (A) Public Library Association;
- (B) Association of College and Research Libraries;
- (C) American Association of State Libraries;
- (D) Association of Hospital and Institution Libraries;;
- and
- (E) American Association for School Libraries.

The special Activity Divisions are:

- (A) Young and Adult Services Division;
- (B) Children's Services Division;
- (C) Resources and Technical Services Division;
- (D) Library Education Division;
- (E) Adult Services Division;
- (F) Library Administration Division;
- (G) Reference Services Division;
- (H) American Library Trustee Association; and
- (I) Information Science and Automation Division..

Each Division is managed by an elected Board of Directors and has committees and sub-divisions as required for the realisation of its objectives. It has its representatives on the A.L.A. Council and receives financial assistance from the Association. The most significant part of the work of A.L.A. is carried out by these Divisions. This is a special feature of A.L.A.

The A.L.A. has nine Round Tables, which deal with those aspects of librarianship that are not covered by the programmes of its Divisions (e.g., library services for blind people, library research, etc.). This is a device which enables A.L.A. to keep pace with new developments in librarianship. For example, A.L.A.—has established recently a Round Table on Social Responsibilities of librarianship. Social responsibility of librarianship is a sensitive professional issue. Each Round Table has not less than fifty members and is managed by an elected governing body.

There are fifty-eight Chapters which are autonomous. The State Associations and most of Regional Associations are Chapter members of A.L.A. Each Chapter is managed by an elected body and chiefly responsible for local library services. This is a helpful division of labour in library services. The A.L.A. is concerned with national standards in librarianship and the Chapters manage the local services and problems in library service.

The A.L.A. has a large number of committees appointed by the President to work on various aspects of librarianship.

There are eleven affiliated organisations to the A.L.A. The A.L.A. maintains liaison and co-operates with several national and international organisations. It has its representatives on some of these organisations.

The A.L.A. has approximately two hundred employees who work under the supervision of its executive director.

The organisational structure of A.L.A. is ably designed to cope up with its unparalleled size (members and area), and professional requirements (demands on

the library profession from a highly industrialised and professionally specialised society). The idealistic professional zeal of the founders of A.L.A. was well-matched by the pragmatic and institution-building capacity of the leaders of Association, who shaped its institutional framework to discharge its professional tasks efficiently without sacrificing its professional zeal and mission.

## Activities

### (A) LEGISLATION

For a long period, the A.L.A. was rather reluctant to participate in influencing or shaping the library legislation in U.S.A. This is due to the desire to avoid involvement in politics; the belief that libraries are local institutions (hence, do not need national standards), and a feeling of weakness of its own influence.<sup>17</sup> But slowly, A.L.A. has moved away from this position. It advocated national legislation programme for libraries in 1934-35. The Association provides consultative services and conducts workshops to train librarians who are interested in State legislation on librarianship. The Association has an office in Washington since 1949 to influence federal legislation affecting libraries and librarians. After a prolonged effort, the A.L.A. secured federal aid to libraries in 1956. The A.L.A. helped legislation on education at several levels which has bearings on librarianship (e.g., the National Defence Education Act (1958); the Elementary and Secondary School Act (1965); the Higher Education Act (1965), etc.). It helped legislation which provided funds for library education and legislation dealing with postal rates and copyright.

### (B) EDUCATION FOR LIBRARIANSHIP

The A.L.A. functions as a clearing house for information related to library education. As an accreditation agency of library schools, the A.L.A. has developed standards of accreditation in 1951. It adopted standards



of accreditation for undergraduate library schools in 1959. It accredits library schools through a careful process of supervision, evaluation and inspection. It participates in national meetings and conferences which deal with several aspects of library education. It secures federal funds for the promotion of library education. The A.L.A. provides financial and personnel assistance for the development of library education in other countries (e.g., development of the library education programme of the University of Delhi).

### (C) OTHER ACTIVITIES OF A.L.A.

As pointed out by Landau, T. the "A.L.A. has taken strong leadership in spreading the ideas of intellectual freedom."<sup>18</sup> The A.L.A. has a deep conviction in the sanctity of free access to reading materials, and passionately advocated this concept.<sup>19</sup> The Council of A.L.A. has a committee on 'Intellectual Freedom' to safeguard the rights of library users to freedom of inquiry. This committee is the principal agency of A.L.A. in interpreting, promoting and protecting the rights of free inquiry. The A.L.A. appointed a special committee on censorship in 1939. The Library Bill of Rights adopted by this committee as official policy statement (revised in 1948 and amended in 1967) seeks to protect the autonomy of libraries in the selection of reading materials; free access to materials that advocate all points of view; freedom of the individual to use libraries; the duty of librarians to fight against proscription of reading materials; and co-operate with all groups in society to uphold intellectual freedom; and to promote the idea that library is an educational institution. It adopted the School Library Bill of Rights in 1965. It devised and adopted a programme of action in 1969 to be implemented in regard to libraries that violate the provisions of the Library Bill of Rights. The A.L.A. labels the libraries which violate the Library Bill of Rights.

Indeed, the A.L.A. fully subscribed to the view that the most precious task of library profession is to make books available for all sections of people in society. Ranganathan, S. R. has analysed the role of A.L.A. in implementing the second law of library science.<sup>20</sup> The A.L.A., through its Divisions, designed and ably implemented imaginative programmes to provide library facilities and services to different segments of people in society (e.g., children, youth, labour groups, rural people, adults (adult education), etc.).<sup>21</sup> Furthermore, the A.L.A. is keenly interested in the growth and improvement in library services of the public and academic libraries.

The A.L.A. conducts and encourages research studies and activities to enrich library services and education at all levels. It compiles quarterly bibliographies to promote library research. The Library Technology Project is a unique enterprise managed by the A.L.A. The project has provided standardised and tested information to librarians regarding the library supplies, equipment and system.<sup>22</sup> The A.L.A. has developed standards of library services "on the basis of the actual results of researches."<sup>23</sup>

The A.L.A. gives several awards to persons and institutions for distinguished service in library profession.

The A.L.A. has a massive publications programme. It publishes books, periodicals, reports, etc., relating to library services and education.

The A.L.A. has a strong tradition of co-operation with international professional bodies like the I.F.L.A., F.I.D., etc., and other national associations. It has the International Relations Board since 1942 to promote programmes of international co-operation.

The uniqueness of A.L.A. lies in upholding the intellectual freedom, spreading or making available library facilities to all people, developing new programmes in library services, evolving national standards of library equipment, etc., by means of empirical research. It may not be wrong to suggest that these features of A.L.A. are products of the democratic and pragmatic spirit of the American society.

## INDIAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION (1933)

India experienced far-reaching consequences due to the British rule specially in the field of education. The introduction of Western education incorporating the principle of universal education, and the availability of wide opportunities for educated persons to improve their economic and social status, led to the expansion of educational facilities. The reading public had grown remarkably in size. The printing press has revolutionised the manufacture of books and reading materials. The structural and functional development of local bodies—(District and Taluk Boards, Municipal Councils and Corporations)—and the growth of towns and cities provided the base for a network of public libraries. Furthermore, the leaders of Indian Nationalist Movement appreciated the significant role of libraries in the task of national reconstruction. This is the general background for the genesis of I.L.A.

An Indian Library Conference sponsored by the Government of India, consisting mostly non-librarians was held in 1918 at Lahore.<sup>24</sup> The Government of India did not permit the delegation of Andhra Desa Library Association to participate in the deliberations of the Indian Library Conference held at Lahore. The A.D.L.A. thought it fit to organise an All India Public Library Conference separately to deal with the problems of libraries for the advancement of common people in India. As rightly pointed out by Chakravarty, N. C.: "This was the genesis of the first All India Public Library Conference, convened by the promoters of the Library Movement in Andhra, at Madras on the 14th November, 1919, the memorable day that we have decided to celebrate as the National Library Day, being the first day of the National Library Week."<sup>25</sup> Iyyanki was the spirit and sole leader of this Conference. This was called the All India Grandhalaya Delegates Conference, convened at Madras on the 14th November, 1919, under the chairmanship of Iyyangar, S., Kasturi Ranga-swamy, Editor of 'Hindu,' and the presidentship of

Kudholkar, J. S., Curator of Libraries, Baroda. It culminated in the formation of All India Public Library Association. It has functioned from 1919 to 1939 and conducted the following conferences :

### Conferences of AIPLA

Serial No.	Year	City	President
I	1919	Madras	Kudholkar, J. S.
II	1923	Kakinada	Jayakar, M.R.
III	1924	Belgaum	Das, Chittaranjan
IV		Lahore	Roy, Prafulla Chandra
V	1927	Madras	Benarjee, P.N.
VI	1928	Calcutta	Radha Krishnan, S.
VII	1933	Bezawada	Ram, V. S.
All India Rural Library Conference	1933	Madras	Thomas, M. O.
VIII	1934	Madras	Rai, Kumar Munindradeva

These conferences created library consciousness in India. The A.I.P.L.A. published 'Indian Library Journal' from 1924 to 1936. The journal propagated modern trends in librarianship all over India. Iyyanki was the lynchpin of A.I.P.L.A. As pointed out by Kaula, P.N., the A.I.P.L.A. conferences "were instrumental in setting up professional associations in several States."<sup>26</sup>

The following regional library associations were established: Andhra Desa Library Association (1914); Bengal Library Association (1925); Madras Library Association (1928); and Punjab Library Association (1929). Finally, the Indian Library Association was formed at Calcutta on the 12th September, 1933. Some of the other Indian professional associations are: the Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centres (1955), the Indian Association of Library Associations (1962), the Federation of Indian Library Associations (1967), etc.

The Indian Library Association aimed :

- (1) to develop library movement in India ;
- (2) to promote training and professionally competent librarians in India ;
- (3) to encourage and conduct research in librarian-



ship and library science ;

(4) to improve the status and conditions of service of librarians ; and

(5) to co-operate with international organisations with similar objectives.<sup>27</sup>

Recently, the I.L.A. has incorporated the following objectives :

(1) Affiliation and collaboration with the State and other Library Associations ; (2) Promotion of Library Legislation in India ; and (3) Establishment of Libraries, Information and Documentation Centres.

### Structure

The General Body of I.L.A. has the following categories of members :

- (A) Patrons : those who contribute not less than Rs. 2,000/- or property worth about Rs. 5,000/- or more.
- (B) Honorary Members : those who have rendered distinguished services to the library movement.
- (C) Life Members : those who contribute not less than Rs. 100/-.
- (D) Ordinary Members : those who contribute Rs. 10/- annually.
- (E) Institution Members : institutions which contribute not less than Rs. 35/- annually.
- (F) Library Association Members : Associations which contribute not less than Rs. 50/- annually.

The General Body shall meet annually. It elects the council, office-bearers (excepting those who are nominated by the Council) and Executive Committee of the Association, and exercises general functions of policy approval, control and supervision of the activities of the Association.

There is a Council of the Association comprising the following members : Office-bearers, namely, the President, Five Vice-Presidents, the Secretary, the Treasurer, two Assistant Secretaries, one Librarian and Public Relations Officer ; and Representatives of the follow-

ing groups of the Association: (a) Representatives elected from among Personal Members (Patrons, Honorary Members and Ordinary Members)—one representative for 80 members, subject to a maximum of 20 representatives; (b) Representatives of Institution Members—one representative for 20 members; (c) one representative for each State Library Association; (d) Chairman of each Section; and (e) Past Presidents. The Council shall meet before and after the General Body meeting. The Council considers and passes the budget. It approves the bye-laws of the Association. It appoints special committees of the Association. It nominates the following office-bearers of the Association: the Treasurer, two Assistant Secretaries, one Librarian and the Public Relations Officer. It also nominates one of the Vice-Presidents and three members as Members of the Executive Council.

There is an Executive Council for the Association comprising the following members: the President, one Vice-President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, Assistant Secretaries, one Librarian, Public Relations Officer; and three Members nominated by the Council provided that two of them shall be residents at the Headquarters office of the Association. The Executive Council manages the affairs of the Association.<sup>28</sup>

The I. L. A. has constituted State Library Committees and Northern, Central, Southern, Eastern and Western zonal councils at its 1976 Conference to co-ordinate its activities. It also created National Conventions on the following themes "to review the development in their respective fields since independence." These conventions are:

- (1) Agricultural Libraries; (2) College Libraries;
- (3) Government Department Libraries; (4) Engineering and Technological Libraries; (5) Medical Libraries;
- (6) Oriental Libraries; (7) Public Libraries;
- (8) School Libraries; (9) Documentation Libraries;
- (10) Research Libraries; (11) University Libraries;
- (12) Technical Services Section; and (13) Library Science Education Section.

## Activities

### CONFERENCES

The I. L. A. holds biennial or periodic conferences.<sup>24</sup> These conferences are avenues for meetings of librarians and those interested in librarianship from all over the country, and thus foster professional fraternity. Presentation and discussion of research papers, and discussions on matters of professional concern are held in these conferences. Seminars and symposiums on important topics are conducted at these conferences. We may note some of the important seminars and symposiums held by the I. L. A. on the following themes:

- (1) State Library Legislation ;
- (2) Bibliographical Organisation and Control in India ;
- (3) Public Library Provision and Documentation Problems ;
- (4) Development by Demonstration ;
- (5) Reference Service and Reference Materials ;
- (6) Depth Classification ;
- (7) Report of the Advisory Committee on Libraries (Government of India, 1959) ;
- (8) Library Personnel ;
- (9) Library Development during the Fourth Five-Year Plan ;
- 10) How to Achieve Optimum Utilization of Existing National Library Resources ; etc.

Discussions held at these seminars and symposiums put focus on the problems of librarianship in India, and the recommendations of these professional meetings sometimes influenced the policies of the Union and State Governments.

It Passes Resolutions at these Conferences on all aspects and problems of librarianship. These Resolutions draw the attention of the society and Government to various problems of library profession in India. In fact, these Resolutions are the seed ideas for the policies of the Government. For example, at its First Confe-

rence it pointed out the need for preparation of Union Catalogue of Scientific Periodicals.<sup>30</sup> At its Second Conference (Lucknow, 1935), it called for improvement of College Libraries on scientific lines; and appealed to the Local Boards to give financial assistance to libraries. It also pleaded that libraries may be developed as centres for promotion of rural progress. It has passed several Resolutions on the recommendations of the Third Pay Commission. The Association passes Resolutions on all aspects of the librarianship. Perhaps, the Association initiates inadequate follow-up action to pursue the implementation of these resolutions.

## LIBRARY LEGISLATION

The Association drafted a Model Library Bill. It has examined the progress of library legislation in several States.

## LIBRARY EDUCATION

It pleaded for uniform standards in library education.<sup>31</sup> It appealed to the Universities to promote library science education. It attempted to influence the policies of the University Grants Commission on library science education.

## PUBLICATIONS

It has a series of publications in English and Hindi. Till 1942, the news of I.L.A. were published in the 'Modern Librarian.' It published 'Library Bulletin' from 1942 to 1946. It issued ABGILA (Annals, Bulletin and Grandhalya of Indian Library Association) from 1949 to 1953. It published 'Journal of Indian Library Association' from 1955 to 1964. It started 'Indian Library Association Bulletin' in 1965. It compiled and published Directory of Indian Libraries (1951). It has several other publications, for example. 'Book Selection' by Ranganathan, S. R., 'Subject Headings in Hindi' by Gour P. N., etc.



## OTHER ACTIVITIES

It prepared a scheme for inter-library loan facility. It prepared Union catalogue of periodical holdings of South Asian Libraries, with the collaboration of UNESCO. It is responsible for the establishment of National Documentation Centres. It is a Member of the Indian Adult Education Association. It also prepared a Directory of Learned Periodicals in Asia. It participated in the First World Congress of Librarians held at Lisbon in 1935. It was actively associated with the preparations for the establishment of the 'Asian Federation of Library Associations' (1951). It is a Member of International Federation of Library Associations. It has firm relations with other international bodies like the UNESCO.

In spite of the long history and conducive infra-structure for the promotion of strong library association (expansion of libraries, provision of funds for library services, improvement of the status of librarians, etc.), the I.L.A. is still in its infancy. Perhaps, this is one of the weakest professional associations. As rightly observed by Chakravarty, N.C., the services provided by the I.L.A. are of 'fragmentary nature' compared to that of L.A. and A.L.A.<sup>32</sup> There are some deep-rooted reasons for this pathetic situation. Obviously, linguistic plurality in the country, inadequate transport and communication system, absence of uniform standards of library administration, gross inequality both in library facilities and scales of pay of library personnel among the school, college, university, public and special libraries, etc., are obstacles for the growth of strong library association. An inadequate measure of mutual understanding and appreciation among the professional and non-professional members of the Association is another factor retarding the progress of I.L.A. Perhaps, the library staff in India have less professional identity and commitment than what is desirable. This may be to some degree a failure of library staff and governmental agencies to appreciate the role of libraries in promoting

social and economic growth. This is due to a general situation in an underdeveloped or poor society. Librarians share the general tendencies of Indians, namely, that we are incapable of building up and sustaining institutions, and working together for the pursuit of common interests. Our loyalty to institutions is weak, and we are prone to be egotistic and susceptible for personal jealousies and mutual suspicion. The pattern of public libraries and library profession is based on Western experiences, and is too unfamiliar and unrelated to the grass-root structures of India. Hence, the I.L.A. failed to devise new programmes to serve the society and thus earn professional status. The reasons for the absence of strong library association in our country are too complex, and at any rate some of these factors are inherent conditions in our situation. There are no simple solutions to this malady. It is encouraging to note a few suggestions of some persons in library profession to remedy this situation and establish strong library association in India.<sup>33</sup>

Let us hope and look forward that a strong library association will emerge in our country under dedicated and enthusiastic leadership.

## NOTES

1. A dictionary of historical principles explains the term (Association) as associated for a common purpose; the organisation formed to effect their purpose; a society (e.g., The British Association for the Advancement of Science, etc., 1854). 'The Shorter Oxford English Dictionary on Historical Principles' prepared by Little, William. Fowler, H. W. and Coulson, J. Revised and edited by Onions, C.T. (Oxford, O.U.P., 1933.) Vol. I, p. 3. It is interesting to note this comment on the etymological meaning of the term association: "The word 'association' in the sense in which it is commonly used is etymologically inaccurate, for association does not properly describe the act of associating together, from which act of associating there is formed a company or partnership." Saunders, John B. (Ed.) 'Words and Phrases Legally Defined,' 2nd ed., London, 1969, Vol. I, p. 130.

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14. Macleod, R.D. op. cit., p. 3.
15. Clift, David H. 'Associations in the United States,' 'Library Trends,' Vol. III: No. 3, 1955, p. 223.
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18. Thomas, Landau. op. cit., p. 14.
19. Dix, William S. 'Intellectual Freedom,' 'Library Trends,' Vol. III: No. 3, 1955, pp. 299-309.
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## HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT OF A.P.L.A.

### HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The first conference of the representatives of libraries of Andhra Desa was held under the auspices of the Rammohan Library at Bezawada on the 10th April, 1914. The prime movers who convened and conducted this conference were Iyyanki Venkata Ramanayya (the then Secretary, Rammohan Library) and Suri Venkata Narasimha Sastri. They have issued a public appeal in January, 1914, regarding the need for this conference. They stated that in addition to the literary activities, the representatives of libraries and librarians should take interest in social problems and affairs. Precisely for the appreciation and analysis of the wider role of libraries and librarians in society, the conference was convened.<sup>1</sup> This was a conference of 200 delegates who were interested in library movement. The participants believed that libraries were agents of education and enlightenment of the public, and instruments of national awakening and development. It comprised mainly the Telugu-speaking districts (Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Goda-

vary, Krishna, Guntur, Nellore, Cuddapah, Kurnool and Bellary) of Madras Presidency, even though delegates from the Telugu districts of Hyderabad State participated frequently in the conferences of this association from its birth. (For example: Ramakoteswara Rao from Warangal; B. Subrahmanyam from Secunderabad; and A. Gururaja Rao from Hanumakonda attended the Conference in 1914). At this conference, originally the Andhra Desa Librarians Association was formed, soon it was redesignated as the Andhra Desa Library Association (A. D. L. A.).

Andhra library movement cultivated three distinctive links which shaped its unique character. First, library movement is one of the twin forces (the other is Andhra movement, i.e., the demand for separate State for Telugu-speaking people) that stirred Andhra society in the first half of this century. In fact, the establishment of the A.D. L. A. coincided with the holding of Second Conference of the Andhra Mahasabha at Vijayawada on the 10th April, 1914. Libraries were considered as agents to promote the literary and cultural renaissance of Andhra Desa. Second, it was an integral part of National movement for Freedom. Leading workers of library movement—Iyyanki Venkata Ramanayya, Paturi Nagabhushanam, Gadicherla Hari Sarvottama Rao, Kodati Narayana Rao, Vavilala Gopala Krishnayya, Suri Venkata Narasimha Sastry, Marepalli Ramachandra Sastri, Punyamurtula Rajasekharam and others—actively participated in the national movement. It may not be wrong to suggest that all these remarkable persons have chosen library movement as a means to promote national liberation. Also important leaders in the nationalist movement Konda Venkatappayya, Tangu-turi Prakasam, Pattabhi Sitaramayya, N.G. Ranga, Dug-girala Gopalakrishnayya, Kasinathuni Nageswara Rao, Ayyadevara Kaleswara Rao, Chilakamarti Lakshmi Narasimham, Kalluri Subba Rao and others were deeply associated with library movement. Libraries were perceived as schools of popular awakening and patriotic feelings. Village libraries were given top priority. Rural

libraries were centres of adult education, recreational and cultural facilities, social reform and community services like village sanitation and health, rural reconstruction, etc. The A.D.L.A. was affiliated to the National Educational University started by Annie Besant in 1915. This is the imprint of national movement on the character of libraries. On the other hand, libraries trained hundreds of workers who participated in the nationalist movement. Duggirala Gopalakrishnayya, in his Presidential Address to the A.D.L.A. (8th Conference, Pamidipadu, 1923), vividly described the role of libraries in the national movement: 'I have visited many villages in Andhra Desa in the past two years and found every library emerge into importance as the seat and fountain source of the effort to fan the fire of the National Liberation Movement.' Third, library movement is the first and most enduring institutional base for the integration of the Andhra (Telugu-speaking area of the Madras Presidency) and Telangana (Telugu-speaking area of the Hyderabad State) regions.<sup>2</sup> Long before the political parties and leaders advocated the demand for the formation of present Andhra Pradesh, the A.D.L.A. through its literary and educational programmes, annual conferences, and selection of office-holders on regional representation basis, laid the foundations for an integrated Andhra State. Some representatives of the Telangana region attended the first conference of the A.D.L.A. in 1914. Madapati Hanumanta Rao and Vaman Naik were on the Executive Council of the A.D.L.A. for some years. Suravaram Pratapa Reddy was its Vice-President from 1943-45; Vattikota Alwaraswamy Joint-Secretary from 1941-43; Madapati Hanumanta Rao an Honorary Member; and Kadati Narayana Rao, the Joint-Secretary in 1944, and its President since 1960. A Telangana branch of the A.D.L.A. was opened in 1945 at Khammam. Suravaram Pratapa Reddy, a distinguished scholar and leader of Telangana region, was the President of the 23rd Conference of the A.D.L.A. held in 1942 (Pedapalem, Guntur District). In addition to the 26th (Kyaturu, 1946, Presi-

dent: Raja Venkata Rama Reddi), 27th (Suryapeta, 1950), 29th (Jangoan, 1953), and 30th (Khammam, 1957) Conferences, the Association held its Silver Jubilee Conference under the Presidentship of Boorgula Ramakrishna Rao at Singareni (1944) in Telangana. Several of its conferences were held in Rayala Seema region. Its most outstanding President G. Hari Sarvottama Rao hailed from the Ceded districts. Thus, it fostered the unity and integrity of Andhra Pradesh.

This is the first library association in India. Truly, it is a people's movement in a two-fold sense of the term. Firstly, its leaders are voluntary workers who are serving the library movement with noble goals of patriotism, service to the people, national liberation and reconstruction. Secondly, the library movement in Andhra is mainly interested in educating and awakening people in support of national freedom and nation-building activities and programmes.

It is a well-founded observation that library associations like other public movements and institutions, do not originate and function in vacuum. They reflect and are conditioned by the economic, social and political environment of the times. Hence, it is our primary task to analyse the background for the establishment of A. D. L. A.

## **SIGNIFICANT FACTORS PROMOTING ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION :**

### **(A) Economic**

It is depressing to note that Europeans, who came to India in the 17th century primarily for trading purposes, gained in course of time political supremacy and changed the economic face of India.

The British established their first settlement and factories in India at Nizampatnam and Machilipatnam (Guntur and Krishna districts respectively, called Krishna Mandalam in those days which was an inte-



gral part of the Hyderabad State) in 1611. Slowly and steadily British trading interests penetrated into the rural areas from the port towns. By 1800, the British established their political hegemony over Andhra region. Similarly, they influenced the economic activity of the region. Traditional handicrafts and forms of agricultural production slowly declined. In their place, cotton, sugar-cane, oil seeds and other commercial crops were introduced. Dams across Godavary and Krishna, and Kurnool-Cuddapah canal were completed respectively in 1848, 1854 and 1871, providing vast irrigation facilities. A moderate scale of industrialisation was promoted. As a consequence, the occupational pattern and mobility has changed in the society. The traditional static form of society has experienced gradual changes and modernisation. The pace of change was not uniform, but the change itself was evident. The change promoted new professional groups and skills who welcomed novel ideas and knowledge. The following Table is an index of the changing pattern of occupations and trades :

TABLE I\*

Occupations per 1,000 inhabitants in East Coast North

	Year 1911	Year 1921
Agriculture	696	725
Industry	138	114
Commerce	78	61
Professions	13	20
Others	75	80

\* Raman Rao, A.V. 'Economic Development of Andhra Pradesh,' 1766-1957. Bombay, Popular Book Depot, 1958, p.166.

The agricultural and industrial development indicates increasing prosperity and productivity of the economy. It promoted trade and urbanisation. The Godavari and Krishna canals, Kurnool-Cuddapah canal (na-

vigable from 1880) navigable for 11 months in a year with 600 miles of running waters were great arteries of trade and commerce. Table II gives us a picture of the trade in all major port towns of Andhra region :

TABLE II\*

## Port trade of the Andhra Districts 1914-1915

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

Place	Average of five years ending 1912-13	1913-14	1914-15
Cocanada	294.06	277.97	299.45
Bhimilipatam	27.21	75.48	18.42
Vizagapatam	22.74	48.79	13.62
Masulipatam	18.93	7.80	9.38

\* Raman Rao, A. V., op. cit., p. 257.

Establishment of railway lines was another factor to boost the economy of the region. By 1900, the railway lines from Madras to Waltair, Guntakal to Bezawada, Madras to Bombay (covering the Ceded districts), Tirupati to Katpadi, etc., were opened. By 1880 Andhra districts had a road mileage of approximately 7,000 miles. Communication networks facilitated trade and mobility of people and ultimately all this led to the gradual urbanisation of the region. The following Table shows the trends of urbanisation in Andhra :

TABLE III\*

## Decade-wise population growth of towns in Andhra

Name of the City	1871	1881	1891	1901	1911	1921
Class II :						
Rajahmundry	19,738	24,555	28,397	36,408	48,417	53,791
Cocanada	17,839	28,856	40,553	48,098	54,110	53,348

Name of the City	1871	1881	1891	1901	1911	1921
Class III :						
Guntur	18,033	19,648	23,359	30,833	40,529	48,184
El'ore	25,487	25,092	29,382	33,521	37,819	45,862
Vizagpatam	32,191	30,291	34,482	40,892	43,413	44,711
Bezawada	8,026	9,336	20,741	24,224	32,867	44,159
Masulipatam	20,169	22,577	30,881	37,270	37,550	39,299
Vizianagaram	20,169	22,577	30,881	37,270	37,550	39,299
Nellore	29,922	27,505	29,336	32,040	33,246	35,863
Kurnool	25,579	20,329	24,376	25,376	26,040	27,908
Tenali	4,043	4,747	6,074	10,204	18,195	23,230
Anakapalle	13,044	13,341	17,010	18,539	20,625	20,360

\* 'Census of India, 1921,' Vol. XIII, Madras, Part II  
 'Imperial and Provincial Tables,' by Boag, G. T.  
 Madras, Government Press, 1922, pp. 8-12.

We notice fast urbanisation in Andhra. The growth of towns in the fifty-year period preceding 1921 was uneven. Important centres like Bezawada had an average population growth of 9.14% 'per year;' Tenali had 9.5%; Cocanada had 4.04%; Rajahmundry had 3.46%; and Guntur had 3.34%. These towns were the base for library movement.

### (B) Education

The economic growth created demand for educational opportunities. Western system of education slowly spread into the district and small towns, due to the efforts of Christian missions, and the activities of the government and philanthropic organisations. The Noble College (Christian Missionary Institution) of Masulipatam was started as a school in 1843 and added collegiate sections in 1864. Taylor's School was established at Narasapuram in 1843. The University of Madras was established in 1857. The Government of Madras established a second grade college at Rajahmundry in 1873 and upgraded it with the introduction of B.A. classes in 1877. Second grade colleges were started at Vizagapatam in 1878; and at Berhampur in 1879. At Guntur, the A.M.E.L. College was opened in 1885. These are

some of the pioneering educational institutions in Andhra districts in the later half of the 19th century. Consequently, the literacy rate in Andhra region steadily improved. Table IV is a factual account of the growth of literacy in Andhra districts of the Madras Presidency:

TABLE IV\*  
Decade-wise Growth of Literacy Percentage in  
Andhra Districts\*

	1881	1891	1901	1911	1921
1. Ganjam	4.14	5.40	4.39	5.50	6.44
2. Vizagapatam	3.52	3.93	3.18	3.32	4.59
3. Godavari	4.31	5.65	4.63	5.63	7.22
4. Kistna	5.20	6.43	4.98	6.22	7
5. Guntur (part of Kistna till 1911)	-	-	-	6.32	7.31
6. Nellore	5.61	5.98	4.74	5.24	5.62
7. Cuddapah	4.54	5.24	4.31	5.34	5.93
8. Kurnool	4.75	5.41	4.20	5.22	6.19
9. Bellary	6.65	6.97	4.54	5.12	6.54
10. Anantapur	4.71	5.14	4.14	4.46	5.62
11. Chittor	-	-	-	5.20	6.3

\* The percentage of literacy is constructed on the basis of Census Reports data. The figures for the years 1881 and 1891 are based on the evidence of: 'Census of India,' 1891, Vol. XIII, Madras, by Stuart, H.A., Government Press, Madras, 1893, p.176. The figures for the year 1901 are based on: 'Census of India,' 1901, Vol. XV-A, Madras, Part II, 'Imperial Tables,' by Francis, W., Government Press, Madras, 1902, pp.73-84; for the year 1911 are based on: 'Census of India,' 1911, Vol. XII, Madras, Part II, 'Imperial and Provincial Tables,' by Molony, C.J., Government Press, Madras, 1912, pp.66-71; and for the year 1921 are based on: 'Census of India,' 1921, Vol. XIII, Madras, Part II, 'Imperial and Provincial Tables,' by Boag, G.T., Government Press, Madras, 1922, pp.63-67.

The spread of Western education created new professional and elite groups like the lawyers, medical men and civil servants. It promoted rational outlook and demand for social reform. The demand for reading



materials—books and magazines—also increased. Probably, the first Telugu book was printed around 1807 at Serampore.<sup>3</sup> After 1830, printing of Telugu books increased in volume. By 1852, there were 8 Telugu printing presses in Madras city alone. The following were popular Telugu Magazines in the late 19th and early 20th century :

Andhra Bhasha Sanjivani (1871); Chintamani (1878); Vivekavardhini (1885); Brahma Prakasika (1886); Mahilakala Bodhini (1893); Krishna Patrika (1902); Hindu Sundari (1904); Savitri (1904); Satyavadini (1904); Suvarnalekha (1904); Janana Patrika (1904); Manorama (1906); Desamata (1907); Aryamata Bodhini; Anasuya; Purushardha Pradayini; Manjivani; Swarajya; Navayuga; and others.

Vignana Chandrika Mandali was started in 1906 by K. Laxmana Rao, with the help of G. Harisarvottama Rao (later President of A.D.L.A.) and A. Kaleswara Rao, to create a healthy prose literature in Telugu, chiefly consisting of books on History, Biography, Science, Romance and translation of important English books; and to encourage the study of Western science and culture through vernacular language.<sup>4</sup> 'Andhra Patrika,' a Telugu weekly was started in 1908 at Bombáy, and it became the first Telugu daily newspaper from Madras in 1914. By 1920, there were: 1 daily newspaper, 11 weekly magazines, 20 monthly magazines and 6 other types of magazines in Telugu language.<sup>5</sup>

The growth of publishing firms, availability of books and magazines, and development of middle classes who had leisure and taste for reading led to the establishment of some important libraries in Andhra region. Till recently, it was believed that 'Saraswati Nilayam' (Vizagapatam, 1886) founded by M. Adinarayana Murti was the first public library in Andhra region. This was confirmed by the researches of M. Ramachandra Kavi. Bandi Gopala Reddy brought to our notice the fact that James Thomas, a judicial officer at Rajahmundry, established a Reading Room at Rajahmundry around 1839.

As many as hundred persons daily visited this Reading Room to read Telugu books, 'Vrttanti' (Telugu Magazine) and other books. Gopala Reddy collected this information from a letter of Julia Thomas, wife of James Thomas. Clearly this Reading Room had the character of public library, and from the available information to us, it deserves to be designated as the first public library in Andhra.<sup>6</sup> Yet, we do not know what happened to this Reading Room in the later period. The following important libraries functioned on a sustained basis for considerable periods to stimulate the literary interests of the people :

- (1) The Theosophical Lodge Library, Guntur (1882);
- (2) 'Sri Saraswati Grandhalayamu,' Vizagapatam (1886);
- (3) Sri Saraswati Vilasa Mandiramu, Pulivendala, Cuddapah District (1889);
- (4) C. V. N. Library, Ongole (1890);
- (5) 'Nauroji Club,' Undi, West Godavari District (1895);
- (6) 'Veeresalingam Kavi Samajamu,' Kumudavalli, West Godavari District (1897);
- (7) 'Hume Club and Library' (1897);
- (8) The 'Library' established by N. Krishna Rao at Rajahmundry (1898);
- (9) 'Reading Room,' Kolluru, Guntur District (1898);
- (10) 'Young Men's Literary Association,' Guntur (1900);
- (11) 'Veeresalingam Pustaka Bhandagaramu,' Rajahmundry (1900);
- (12) 'Subba Raya Grandhalayamu,' Siddhantam, West Godavari District (1900);
- (13) 'Sri Krishna Devaraya Andhra Bhasha Nilayamu,' Hyderabad (1901);
- (14) 'Sri Victoria Pura Mandiramu,' Social Club Library, Nuzvid, Krishna District (1901);
- (15) 'Sri Sarada Pustaka Bhandagaramu,' Nagireddipalli, Ananthapur District (1903);
- (16) 'Students Self-Improving Society Grandhalayamu,' Bezwada (1903);

- (17) 'Hindu Yuvajana Samaj Grandhalayamu,' Eluru (1904);
  - (18) 'Rajarajanarendra Bhasha Nilayamu,' Hanumakonda (1904);
  - (19) 'Vidyarthi Sangha Grandhalayamu,' Nellore (1904);
  - (20) 'Arya Bala Samajamu,' Pedapalem, Guntur District (1905);
  - (21) 'Andhra Bhashabhivardanee Pustaka Pathanasala,' Secunderabad (1905); and
  - (22) 'Mitra Mandali Grandhalayamu,' Bellary (1905).
- By 1913, there were 123 Libraries in Andhra region.

### (C) Social

The spread of educational institutions, availability of reading materials through libraries, the rise of middle classes and relative economic prosperity gave rise to social awakening and cultural renaissance of Andhra. The new ideas and knowledge received through Western education created intellectual ferment and criticism of the social order. Andhra pulsated with social reform movement. K. Veeresalingam (1848-1919) was the pioneer of social reform movement in Andhra. He firmly believed that social reform should precede political liberty. He opposed and organised movements against early marriage for girls, bride money and discrimination against women in general. He advocated and performed widow marriages, and maintained a widow home. He wrote intelligible Telugu prose freed from Sanskritic style, and advocated the use of simple Telugu language as medium of official communication so that it could be understood by the common man. Raghupati Venkata Ratnam Naidu (1862-1939) was a distinguished educationist and social reformer. As a leader of Brahmo Samaj, he promoted rationalist outlook among the educated persons in Andhra. He organised movements for the prohibition of consumption of alcohol beverages; reform and rehabilitation of prostitutes; and educational and social advancement of scheduled castes. He was

a fore-runner of Gandhian era in the domain of social and economic (Swadesi) reforms. He is one of the architects of modern Andhra. Gurajada Appa Rao (1861-1915) revolutionised the form and content of Telugu literature. He wrote popular verses, stories and dramas on themes of social concern in Andhra, and used literature as a powerful medium to spread the message of social reform. Gidugu Venkata Rama Murti Pantulu (1863-1940) dedicated his life to emancipate Telugu language and literature from the fold of scholastic circles and bring it within the reach of the common people. He criticised the use of Sanskrit terminology and forms in Telugu literature. He started a movement for the use of spoken language (the language used by people in the transaction of their daily activities) in Telugu literature. K. Laxmana Rao (1877-1923) established a publishing concern to spread scientific knowledge and ideas through Telugu language. K. Nageswara Rao Pantulu (1867-1938) started 'Andhra Patrika,' a Telugu daily newspaper, and Andhra Grandhamala and subsidised the distribution of Telugu books to several libraries. Thus Andhra literature and society were transformed under the impact of rational outlook, popular appeal, and zeal for social reform.

#### **(D) Political**

All these developments set the stage for the acceleration of political activities in Andhra region. The Madras Mahajana Sabha (1884) and Indian National Congress (1885) had Andhra delegates at their conferences. Inspired by these examples, Andhra organised District Political Conferences. Krishna (1892) and Godavary (1895) District conferences spread the message of Indian National Congress through their Annual Meetings to the villages. Resolutions on matters of social reform, and agricultural interest were passed at these conferences.

The Japanese victory over Russia in Russo-Japanese War in 1904 had a tremendous impact on the National-



ist Movement in India. The partition of Bengal (1905) which included a proposal to separate the Telugu-speaking districts of Vizagapatam and Ganjam from the Madras Presidency created great stir particularly in Andhra. Bala Gangadhar Tilak, Bipin Chandra Pal, Lala Lajpat Rai and Aurobindo became leaders of Indian Nationalist Movement and advocated the use of extremist methods to win political freedom. They preached the cult of 'Swadesi' national self-sufficiency. Under the impact of 'Vandemataram' movement, Institutions of national and vocational education were set up and Andhra witnessed a wave of protest against foreign rule.

In addition to these general factors which stimulated militant and radical stances of nationalist movement, Andhra region faced a special problem. It was a widespread belief among the active and informed sections of Andhra people that Andhra was comparatively a neglected region in the Madras Presidency. It was believed that in matters of public investment in education, roads, medical and health facilities, the interests of Andhra region had suffered. Andhras had less representation in public services. The development of Andhra region was neglected. It was agreed that Andhras would be able to protect their interests only when a separate Andhra State was formed. The Young Men's Literary Association, Guntur, and Krishna and Godavari Districts Annual Political Conferences, discussed and promoted the idea to form a united organisation to protect the interests of Andhra region. All these efforts culminated in the meeting of Andhra Mahajana Sabha on the 20th May, 1913, at Bapatla with 800 delegates. The main objectives of Andhra movement were: promotion of love for education and culture among people and create educational opportunities; promotion of agriculture and commerce by creating a spirit of co-operation and mutual trust and confidence, stimulating interest in public health, sanitation and physical culture; promotion of Telugu literature to educate masses; secure adequate representation to Andhras in public services;

and work for the creation of a separate province for Andhras. Both in fact and spirit, the Andhra Movement is a continuation of the social and cultural renaissance and political awakening of the early period which was described above.

## **A.D.L.A. AND LIBRARY MOVEMENT**

Library Movement was also construed as an instrument for the promotion of these general objectives in Andhra region. This was the environment in which the A.D.L.A. was established in 1914. It was imbedded in the interstices of Andhra Movement and Struggle for Freedom. This was at once the strength and weakness of A.D.L.A.

### **First Phase 1914-38**

The pioneers of A.D.L.A. looked at library service as a multifaceted activity to reform and regenerate society. It is noteworthy to recall that the most important section of A.D.L.A. was 'Grandhalaya Sevaks' (Library Field Workers) who were dedicated to the cause of library service.<sup>7</sup> This section was modelled after Andhra Sevaks of the Andhra Mahajana Sabha,<sup>8</sup> which in turn was perhaps inspired by the Servants of India Society, Poona. The Library Field Workers "constituted the backbone and life-blood" of the A.D.L.A. and A.I.P.L.A.<sup>9</sup> They were persons of remarkable abilities and admirable devotion and zeal to the cause of library movement. They were full-time honorary workers in the library movement. The Field Workers Division (later Association since 1934) is an integral part of the A.D.L.A. The orientation of A.D.L.A. was to serve the society in a manifold way—social, political economic, educational—rather than to foster purely techniques and skills in librarianship. This is especially true of the early phase of A.D.L.A. from 1914 to 1938. Iyyanki Venkata Ramanayya, Secretary of A.D.L.A. from 1914-38, was a devoted nationalist who dedicated his life to serve the

society. He and the promoters of A.D.L.A. were swayed by patriotic and emotional fervour. They were involved in other movements like the Scout Service, Theosophical Society, National Congress, etc., along with the library movement. They carried the message of library movement to the villages. In this period, the organisational framework of the Association was unimportant, and there were few trained librarians in the field. In fact, the organisational structure of the Association—enrolment of membership, the relations between the district and other affiliated branch associations and the A.D.L.A.—were very weak, and consciously or unconsciously were de-emphasised. The Association was run by dedicated individuals. Men, not the organisational structure, were significant. They conducted the affairs of the Association with zeal and faith. But they failed to provide institutional basis and order for the Association.

## Second Phase 1938-57

We may say that the second phase of the Association started in 1938. P. Nagabhushanam was elected to the office of Secretary (who is serving as Secretary of the Association). He is also an active participant in the nationalist movement, and brought with him a sense of zeal to serve the society. He is an institution builder. He established the headquarters of the Association at Bezawada, with its own buildings and assets. He promoted systematic relationships between the A.D.L.A. and affiliated branch associations. Since he became the Secretary, we have regular records of membership, income and expenditure statements and annual reports of the Association. He helped the establishment of the Library Trust in 1946, which is the principal asset of the Association. Now, the activities of the Association are conducted in an organised way, and the Association has evolved its own image and identity. This association has become a mature professional body. It has made significant contributions in fields of library legislation,



education, and publication of professional literature, etc.

### **Third Phase 1957 to the Present**

The State of Andhra Pradesh was formed in November 1956, with the merger of Telugu-speaking districts of Hyderabad with Andhra State. The name of the Association was changed in 1957 as the Andhra Pradesh Library Association to extend its jurisdiction and activities over the entire State.

### **Aims and Objectives**

The Association was established with the keenly felt need and desire to promote library movement in Andhra region. It aimed to promote library services and facilities by: (1) maintaining a central library at Bezawada; (2) establishing and affiliating libraries and reading rooms; (3) using magic lanterns and cinematographs to educate people; (4) establishing mobile libraries; (5) giving information about free libraries in Andhra and other regions; (6) preparing and publishing a classified list of books in Telugu literature; (7) publishing pamphlets and reviving institutionalised national customs to improve people's knowledge; (8) promoting literature, education, fine arts, historical research, etc., to enrich national heritage and individuality of Andhras; and (9) co-operating with other institutions which pursue similar objectives. It is sufficient to note here that the Association designed and implemented programmes to fulfill most of these proclaimed goals (see, the section on Activities of the Association). It is interesting to note that six out of nine objectives were directed to provide library and reading room facilities, and popularise library movement. The major goal of A.D.L.A. appears to be to help the establishment of libraries and propagate library movement. It was less interested in the improvement of the working of libraries. Given the general economic, social and educational background of

the country, the limited range of the Association's objectives was useful, if not commendable. Even though the Association took an active part in the promotion of education for librarianship, legislation on public libraries, etc., some of these important professional objectives were not incorporated in the goals of the Association. This may be due to the weak professional identity and commitment of the Association. The other objectives of the Association were concerned with the general themes of social and cultural renaissances of Andhra, like the promotion of Telugu literature, revival of cultural traditions, promotion of Andhra historical studies, fine arts, etc. In other words, the Association was interested in establishing libraries and stimulating Andhra cultural renaissance. The Association's interest in the professional dimensions of librarianship was relatively low. These objectives reflect the aspirations of the educated and patriotic middle classes of Andhra in the second and third decades of this century. These goals were upheld by the Association till 1957.

The new constitution of 1957 reformulated the objectives of the Association. The promotion of the development of libraries, social education and Andhra language and culture among Telugu-speaking people in Andhra Pradesh, India and World, are the professed goals of the Association. The revised list of objectives both deleted some items from the old set of objectives (e. g., maintenance of central library at Bezawada; use of magic lanterns, mobile libraries, etc.) and incorporated new ideals. Important new objectives of the 1957 Constitution are: (1) to train competent librarians, social educationists, and create all facilities for them; (2) to work for proper implementation of Andhra Pradesh Public Libraries Act; promote reading habit and ideal civic life among people; (3) to conduct competitive programmes and examinations for the development of Andhra language and Library Science; (4) to establish District, Taluk and City library associations and special Divisions of librarianship; and (5) to maintain centres to give information to public with the help

of reference books and encyclopaedias.

It is gratifying to note that newly framed goals include and seek to promote library profession. The Association cherished to train competent librarians and create facilities for them. It wanted to work for the proper implementation of Madras Public Libraries Act, 1948. Till 1961, Madras Public Libraries Act (1948) was in force in former Telugu districts of Madras Presidency. Hence, the Association was interested in its implementation. This was one of the goals of the Association. The advancement of library science became an accepted goal of the Association. It wanted to set up and encourage the District, Taluk and City library associations, and special Divisions of librarianship. These newly incorporated objectives reflect the professional concern and interest of the Association. This shows the evolution of the A. P. L. A. from a body that was born in the context of social and political awakening of Andhra region in the early part of this century and interested in social service and enlightenment of the public, into a professional organisation to promote librarianship. The objectives of A.P.L.A. are comparable with the professed objectives of any other library association.

## CONSTITUTION

The A. D. L. A. is a registered body according to the provisions of Act No. 21 of 1860. The constitution of the Association has passed through three stages. The first Constitution was framed in 1918 and new Constitutions were adopted in 1938 and 1957. According to the first Constitution of 1918, the Association was managed by the following three bodies:<sup>10</sup>

- (1) General Body ;
- (2) Executive Committee ;
- (3) Library Field Workers.

The General Body comprised 12 categories of members both personal and institutional. The General



Body should meet at least once in a year. This body elected the Executive Committee; approved the annual statement of income and expenditure; nominated Honorary Members of the Association; and approved amendments to the Constitution of the Association. The quorum for General Body Meeting was five members, ten members by written notice could call for a General Body Meeting.

The Executive Committee was composed of seven categories of members. The Executive Committee should hold quarterly meetings, and quorum at these meetings was four members. Any three members could convene the Executive Committee meeting. The Executive Committee had authority to establish and dissolve regional association; convene the General Body Meetings and the Meetings of the delegates of Libraries in Andhra; create special Divisions of the Association; prepare annual financial statement; acquire property, raise loans, and take the necessary steps to implement the objectives of the Association.

The Field Workers of library movement were members of the Association with special status and mission in spreading library movement. They had authority to elect five members of the Executive Committee; implement the financial statement; examine (the organisation and working of) the regional and affiliate associations; propagate and spread the library movement; prepare a statement of annual programmes and submit it to the General Body with the consent of the Executive Committee; manage the central and mobile libraries on behalf of the Association; take necessary steps to implement the objectives of the Association, and frame rules and regulations governing all these activities.

The President of the General Body was to preside over General Body Meetings and look after its affairs. The President of the Executive Committee will conduct its meetings and supervise its activities. The Secretary of the General Body (who was also Secretary of the Executive Committee and Member of the Field Workers) managed the financial and legal affairs; took

action to implement the resolutions of the General Body and Executive Committee; appointed and controlled the employees of the Association, etc.

The classification of members was rather too complex. The Field Workers had special role and status in the Association. Iyyanki Venkataramanayya, who was Secretary of A.D.L.A. from 1914-38, was a member of the Field Workers Division. The Field Workers played significant role in the implementation of the activities of the Association, and worked for the growth of library movement. This had its negative consequences. The Field Workers dominated the Association and almost superseded or reduced the other structures of the Association into non-entities. In fact, the constitutional provisions of the Association were frequently violated. Yet, the A. D. L. A. made significant progress in taking the library movement to the people. The workers of A. D. L. A. helped or inspired the establishment and management of large number of village libraries. They firmly believed that village libraries were instruments of rural reconstruction and development. All activities relating to rural development—adult education, public health programmes, emancipation of scheduled castes and women, sports, dramas and other cultural activities, etc., were linked with rural libraries. Actually, the rural libraries greatly helped the popularisation of library movement. But activities of the Association were not conducted in an orderly and institutionalised process. As a consequence, despite considerable progress of library movement in Andhra region, the A. D. L. A.'s institutional basis remained rather weak.

There was a general concern among the active workers of library movement regarding the above noted trend in the affairs of A. D. L. A. These workers, mainly—M. Ramachandra Sastry, P. Nagabhushanam, V. Gopala-Krishnayya, A. Srinivasa Rao, M. Srirama Murti, P. Rajasekharam, T. Satyanarayana Murti—constituted themselves into a sub-committee to revise the constitution of the Association and set its institutional frame-



work on firm foundations.<sup>11</sup> They held discussions at several meetings of the regional associations of the A. D. L. A., and prepared the draft proposals to revise the Constitution of the Association. The Secretary convened the General Body Meeting of the A. D. L. A. on the 25th December, 1938 at Bezawada, which adopted a new Constitution for the Association.

According to the Constitution adopted in 1938 there were eleven categories of members in the General Body. The General Body would meet every year in the month of May to elect the Governing Body, approve the budget and annual reports and accept bye-laws and rules. It had jurisdiction on all matters of the Association.

The Association was managed by the Governing Body comprising: (1) the President, (2) four Vice-Presidents; (3) Secretary, (4) four Joint-secretaries; and (5) fourteen Members. All the regions of Telugu-speaking area had representation on the Governing Body. It should hold quarterly meetings, and the quorum at these meetings was three members. It was the executive organ of the Association, subject to the rules of the Association. It had power to propose resolutions, bye-laws, and honorary members of General Body; constitute committees; and accept or reject applications for grant of membership of the Association. The President and Secretary of the Governing Body were deemed to be the President and Secretary of the Association. The Secretary was correspondent of the Association, and had responsibility to implement the resolutions of the Association; appoint, control and remove the employees; prepare annual report and budget; and exercise financial control subject to the resolutions of the Governing Body.

It abolished the Field Workers Division (which was the dominant body in the old constitution). It provided a simple framework of General Body. The Governing Body was a viable body of 24 members. The President and Secretary of the Governing Body were deemed to be the President and Secretary of the Association (un-

like in the 1918 Constitution). The new Secretary, P. Nagabhushanam, strictly followed the letter and spirit of the Constitution in conducting the affairs of the Association. The simple institutional structures, well-demarcated roles and relationships of these bodies, and strict implementation of constitutional provisions, created institutional viability and stability for the Association.

The present constitution of the Association was adopted in 1957.<sup>12</sup> The creation of Andhra Pradesh in 1956 and steady progress of the Association gave rise to problems of enlarged territorial jurisdiction and increased membership of the Association. The 1957 constitution was designed to resolve these problems.

There are nine categories of individual and institutional members (details are given in the section on Membership) who comprise the General Body of the Association. It meets once in two years and elects the Governing Council, and has authority on the affairs of the Association. The quorum for General Body Meeting is 25 members.

The Governing Council has one President, five Vice-Presidents, one Secretary, one Treasurer, five Assistant Secretaries, and one hundred members or twenty per cent of the General Body, whichever is less. It should have representatives of all districts, regions, institutions, librarians and those interested in adult education. It meets twice in a year and elects the Executive Committee. The quorum for its meeting is ten members. It makes the policies and bye-laws of the Association, and approves annual report, budget and financial statement. It builds the District, Taluk and City library associations.

The Executive Committee comprises President, Secretary, Treasurer, Vice-Presidents, Assistant Secretaries, and eight members. It meets once in two months with a notice of five days for members. Emergency meetings can be held with 24 hours notice, and resolutions may be adopted by obtaining written consent of the majority of members. Any vacancy either in the Executive

Committee or Governing Council may be filled up by co-option of members. Failure to attend three consecutive meetings will lead to forfeiture of membership both in the Executive Committee and Governing Body, but membership may be restored with the approval of the respective bodies. The Executive Committee conducts the affairs of the Association; appoints committees; accepts or rejects applications for membership; and prepares annual report and budget. The Secretary convenes and records the proceedings of the Meetings; maintains the correspondence, appoints, controls and removes the employees; and manages the resources subject to the resolutions of the Executive Committee of the Association.

This is a three-tier constitutional structure, providing representation to all regions, institutional and individual members. The classification of members is too complicated and undesirable. The quorum for the meetings of General Body, Governing Council and Executive Committee is fixed in the Constitution. This is a departure from the normal practice of fixing the quorum on proportionate basis of the strength of the concerned body. It may be due to the fear that the proportionate members of the concerned bodies may not attend the meetings. The Governing Council has roughly 115 members, and this appears to be an unwieldy body. The frequency of its meetings (twice in a year) is not justified in the light of its functions and role. The executive committee is a small body consisting of approximately 21 members. The provision to call for emergency meeting of the executive committee with 24 hours notice is liable for misuse and hence unnecessary. Otherwise, the Constitution provides a viable institutional basis, and rules for the democratic and orderly management of the Association.

## **ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE**

The Association was called the 'Andhra Desa Library Association.' In 1957, the Association has changed its



name as the 'Andhra Pradesh Library Association.' Its headquarters is at Vijayawada. The Association has its own buildings. The Andhra Grandhalaya (Library) Trust (1946) which owns assets worth about Rs. 2 lakhs is the principal financial asset for the Association.

All the offices of the Association—presidentship, secretaryship, etc.—are honorary jobs without carrying any remuneration, and all these positions are filled up by elections. The secretaryship is a full-time voluntary post. This position is held with great distinction and dedication by Iyyanki Venkata Ramanayya (1914-1938) and Paturi Nagabhushanam (1938- ). The honorary presidentship of the Association was in vogue since 1965. In the early period of its history, the Association had paid organising secretaries as full-time workers to develop library movement.<sup>13</sup>

In the early period, there were two special Divisions in the Association, viz.: (1) The Library Service (Field Workers) Division; (2) The Literary Division. The Field Workers were full-time honorary workers of the Association. They took the message of library movement to the rural people and helped the organisation and running of rural libraries. They toured the districts, delivered lectures to educate people and propagate the library movement. They constituted a powerful group in the organisational framework of the Association, and played a leading role in its activities and affairs. The Literary Division was chiefly interested in the promotion of Telugu literature. They encouraged the production and distribution of standard books in Telugu literature.

District library associations, Taluk library associations, City library associations, village libraries and reading rooms are affiliated members of the Association. These members pay annual membership fees at varied rates to the Association. They receive gratis the official organ of the Association 'Grandhalaya Sarvasvamu' and a part of their membership fees is (except to libraries) reimbursed to them. They are eligible to purchase the publications of the Association at a re-

duced price. The presidents and secretaries of these regional associations sometimes hold ex-officio positions in the Association. The Association has to approve two delegates of the District library associations on the District Library Authority now called the Zilla Grandhalaya Samstha.

Local bodies like the Municipalities, Zilla Parishads, Panchayat Samithis are eligible to join the Association as Institutional Corporate Members on payment of prescribed fees.

In the early period, the regional associations were very active and there was greater interaction between the A.D.L.A. and regional associations. Unfortunately, this relationship has weakened in the last two decades.

## MEMBERSHIP

Both the Constitutions of 1918 and 1938 of the Association enlisted several categories of members. The chief distinction in membership is that of individual members and institutional members. All other distinctions are linked with the graded contribution of membership fees. The present Constitution (1957) lists the members of the Association as noted below:

(1) Honorary Members (those individuals and institutions who are proposed by the Executive Committee and approved by the Governing Body);

(2) Chief Patrons (those who pay not less than Rs. 1,000/- to the Association);

(3) Patrons (those who pay not less than Rs. 250/-);

(4) Life Members (those who pay not less than Rs. 150/-);

(5) Libraries, Reading Rooms, Adult Literacy Centres, Literary Associations (which accept the goals of the Association and pay annually not less than Rs. 10/-);

(6) Village Panchayats, co-operative societies (which pay annually not less than Rs. 15/-);

(7) Panchayat samithis and municipalities (which pay

annually not less than Rs. 25/-);

(8) Zilla Parishads and Co-operative Central Banks and other district level institutions (which pay annually not less than Rs. 50/-); and

(9) Individuals (who pay annually not less than Rs. 10/-).

Systematic and year-wise membership records of the Association are available. However, we may note the enrolment of membership of the Association for a decade (1946-56) in the early period as an example.

TABLE V\*

Membership Record for a Decade from 1946-47 to 1955-56

Year	Individuals	Libraries	Panchayats	Other Institutions	Total
1946-47	270	267	93	29	659
1947-48	703	231	184	14	1132
1948-49	29	46	77	7	159
1949-50	106	56	17	11	190
1950-51	195	44	5	3	247
1951-52	43	14	2	Nil	39
1952-53	41	27	11	4	83
1953-54	117	46	19	9	191
1954-55	27	130	90	8	155
1955-56	28	160	72	15	375

\* Andhra Pradesh Library Association. *Annual Reports No. 32 and 33, 1947, p. 2 and Annual Reports No. 34-42. 1958, p. 25.*

We note violent fluctuations in the enrolment of members from year to year. For example, in the decade we noted above, individual membership varies from 27 to 703; libraries which joined as members change from 14 to 267 and so on. There is no steady enrolment of members.

The Association was strong and had wide base (as the membership record shows) in 1946-48—the period coinciding with the achievement of political independence. In subsequent years, we notice gradual decline of membership of the Association. It may not be wrong to take this trend as a pointer of the advent of a new

situation—political and social milieu—in our country after independence. In this changed context, voluntary agencies and services are not encouraged and supported. Perhaps, pursuit of power and material interests, organisation of support base to compete for power, have naturally become dominant. Consequently, the very texture of A. P. L. A.—voluntary effort and service to the society—encounters an unappreciative and indifferent reception in the society.

We may note the membership of the Association during the last five years (1970-75) district-wise to assess its strength and weakness:

TABLE VI\*

District	Year	Individuals	Libraries	Institutions	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
Srikakulam	1970-71	10	—	—	10
	1971-72	—	—	—	—
	1972-73	2	—	—	2
	1973-74	47	—	—	47
	1974-75	43	—	—	43
Vizag	1970-71	41	5	1	47
	1971-72	13	—	—	13
	1972-73	10	1	—	11
	1973-74	45	2	—	47
	1974-75	117	3	—	120
East Godavari	1970-71	38	11	7	56
	1971-72	34	7	4	45
	1972-73	30	10	2	42
	1973-74	36	8	—	44
	1974-75	35	8	7	50
West Godavari	1970-71	41	—	—	41
	1971-72	18	1	—	19
	1972-73	31	8	2	41
	1973-74	5	—	—	5
	1974-75	29	3	1	33
Krishna	1970-71	73	5	2	80
	1971-72	3	2	—	5
	1972-73	10	2	—	12
	1973-74	14	3	—	17
	1974-75	20	2	2	24

\**Grandhalaya Sarvasvamu*: Vol. 35, No. 2-3 May-June, 1974 p. 14-16; Membership data for the years 1973-75 based on the Annual Reports of the Association.



1	2	3	4	5	6
Guntur	1970-71	33	4	1	38
	1971-72	45	5	2	52
	1972-73	30	6	5	41
	1973-74	41	4	4	49
	1974-75	46	5	3	54
Prakasam	1970-71	2	2	-	4
	1971-72	2	4	-	6
	1972-73	-	2	-	2
	1973-74	34	7	-	41
	1974-75	20	8	-	28
Nellore	1970-71	33	-	9	42
	1971-72	30	-	10	40
	1972-73	31	-	10	41
	1973-74	31	-	10	41
	1974-75	48	-	10	58
Chittore	1970-71	6	-	-	6
	1971-72	35	-	10	45
	1972-73	35	-	10	45
	1973-74	2	-	-	2
	1974-75	1	-	-	1
Cuddapah	1970-71	38	4	1	43
	1971-72	35	2	2	40
	1972-73	37	2	3	42
	1973-74	36	2	3	41
	1974-75	1	-	-	1
Anantapur	1970-71	4	-	1	5
	1971-72	1	-	-	1
	1972-73	40	-	-	40
	1973-74	1	-	-	1
	1974-75	-	-	-	-
Kurnool	1970-71	3	-	-	3
	1971-72	-	-	-	-
	1972-73	1	-	-	1
	1973-74	31	-	-	31
	1974-75	14	-	-	14
Mahaboobnagar	1970-71	NA	-	-	-
	1971-72	"	-	-	-
	1972-73	"	-	-	-
	1973-74	31	10	-	41
	1974-75	4	-	-	4
Hyderabad	1970-71	1	-	-	1
	1971-72	-	-	-	-
	1972-73	29	-	-	29
	1973-74	1	-	-	1
	1974-75	15	1	7	23
Hyderabad City	1970-71	4	-	-	4
	1971-72	21	3	2	26
	1972-73	4	1	-	5
	1973-74	-	-	-	-
	1974-75	4	-	-	4
Adilabad	1970-71	2	-	-	2
	1971-72	-	-	-	-
	1972-73	-	-	-	-
	1973-74	2	-	-	2
	1974-75	2	-	-	2

1	2	3	4	5	6
Nizamabad	1970-71	4	-	-	4
	1971-72	41	-	-	41
	1972-73	9	-	4	13
	1973-74	6	-	-	6
	1974-75	4	-	-	4
Medak	1970-71	2	-	-	2
	1971-72	1	-	-	1
	1972-73	40	-	-	40
	1973-74	1	-	-	1
	1974-75	-	-	-	-
Karimnagar	1970-71	30	10	-	40
	1971-72	1	-	-	1
	1972-73	30	11	-	41
	1973-74	27	6	-	33
	1974-75	26	11	1	38
Warangal	1970-71	1	-	-	1
	1971-72	-	-	-	-
	1972-73	2	-	-	2
	1973-74	2	-	-	2
	1974-75	3	-	-	3
Khammam	1970-71	4	-	-	4
	1971-72	-	-	-	-
	1972-73	36	8	1	45
	1973-74	2	-	-	2
	1974-75	5	1	2	8
Nalgonda	1970-71	2	-	-	3
	1971-72	-	-	-	-
	1972-73	-	-	-	-
	1973-74	1	-	-	1
	1974-75	5	-	-	5
Outside	1970-71	2	-	-	2
	1971-72	2	-	-	2
	1972-73	1	-	-	1
	1973-74	1	-	-	1
	1974-75	3	-	-	3
Life Members	1970-71	15			
	1971-72	10			
	1972-73	12			
Chief Patrons	-	4			
Patrons		4			
Life Members : 125, 9 (who paid Rs. 50), 51 (who paid Rs. 25) = 185					
Honorary Members		14			
Inst.		2			
1973-74	New Life members were not enrolled				
1974-75	1 Patron				
1974-75	91 Life members				

The Association has an enduring and relatively wide-spread base in East Godavari, Guntur, Nellore, Cuddapah, West Godavari, Visakhapatnam, Krishna and Prakasam districts. This is the coastal region of Andhra

(except Cuddapah). The Association has poor or negligible base in the Telangana region (except the Karimnagar district), and Rayala Seema region. This pattern of the base of the Association may be a function of the uneven economic growth, modernisation and political consciousness associated with the different regions of Andhra Pradesh. We know, the availability of workers in the movement is another important factor. We notice, the component of Institutional Members is very weak. Institutional Membership constitutes only 14.43 per cent of the total membership of the Association in the 5-year period. This is sad for two reasons. First, Institutional Membership is a firm grass-root base for any organisation. Secondly, in spite of the remarkable growth of institutions—libraries, local bodies, co-operative societies—in the last ten years, the Association is deprived/denied the support of institutionalised membership. We are constrained to remark again that membership records do not indicate a stable base for the Association. During the five-year period (1970-75), we note the following variations in the minimum and maximum members district-wise: Srikakulam: Min. 0; Max. 47; Visakhapatnam: Min. 11; Max. 120; East Godavary: Min. 42; Max. 56; West Godavary: Min. 5; Max. 41; Krishna: Min. 5; Max. 80; Guntur: Min. 38; Max. 54; Prakasam: Min. 2; Max. 41; Nellore: Min. 41; Max. 58; Chittoor: Min. 1; Max. 45; Cuddapah: Min. 1; Max. 43; Anantapur: Min. 0; Max. 40; Kurnool: Min. 0; Max. 31; Mahaboobnagar: Min. 0; Max. 41; Hyderabad: Min. 0; Max. 29; Hyderabad City: Min. 0; Max. 26; Nalgonda: Min. 0; Max. 5; Karimnagar: Min. 1; Max. 41; Warangal: Min. 0; Max. 3; Khammam: Min. 0; Max. 45; Adilabad: Min. 0; Max. 2; Nizamabad: Min. 4; Max. 41; and Medak: Min. 0; Max. 40.

Eleven districts including the city of Hyderabad record nil membership and seven districts record a minimum membership of 5 or less than 5 members. This is a clear evidence of the weak foundations of the Association, and poor professional concern or zeal and poor loyalty to the Association on the part of members,

since institutions are embodiments of what individuals cherish and aspire to achieve.

## FINANCE

The Association has poor income resources. This is a great limitation for the Association. The Library Trust founded in 1946 with the generous donation given by K. Sita Ramayya is the principal asset for the Association. The Trust owns Sarvottama Bhavanam, which houses the headquarters office of the Association at Vijayawada. It has assets worth Rs. 2 lakhs. It has a series of publications which pay annual dividends. Contributions from membership fees, private donations, income from its publications and Library Trust (1946), are the chief sources of income to the Association. We present the income and expenditure statement of the Association for the year 1947-48, and 1971-72 and 1972-73 to illustrate its financial position:

TABLE VII\*

### Income and Expenditure Statement for 1947-48

#### Income :

	Rs. A. P.
Membership fees	2147. 0. 0
Income from permanent membership fees	225. 0. 0
	<hr/>
Total	2372. 0. 0
Donations other sources of Income	616. 8. 6
Commission for copying	51. 0. 0
Andhra Patrika	2. 8. 0
Income from land	36. 2. 9
Capital	90. 0. 0
	<hr/>
	3168. 3. 3
	<hr/>

#### Expenditure :

	Rs. A. P.
Staff	851. 10. 4

\* Andhra Pradesh Library Association Annual Reports, Nos. 34-42, Bezawada, A.P.L.A., 1958, p. 3.

		Rs. A. P.
Publicity		470. 0. 0
Travel		355. 0. 9
Repair for bicycle		10. 1. 0
Stationery and printing		681. 5. 6
Rent for office		34. 0. 0
Postage		180. 5. 0
Publications of the Association	1313.3.0	
Stock of books	1000.0.0	313. 3. 0
	<u>313.3.0</u>	
Indian Library Association fee	435.13.9	10. 2. 0
Grandhalaya Sarvaswamu	355.0.0	80.13. 9
	<u>80.13.9</u>	
Papers		46. 6. 0
Contribution for membership		40. 0. 0
Old loans		2. 0. 0
Audit fees		10. 0. 0
Balance		83. 3.11
		<u>3168. 3. 3</u>
	Total Rs.	

TABLE VIII\*

## Income and Expenditure Statement for 1971-'72

## Income :

1. Membership fees	Rs. 1831.00
2. Income from life membership fees	1526.00
3. Sale of old newspapers	22.67
4. Donations	116.00

Total Rs. 3495.67

## Expenditure :

1. Travel	8.56
2. Postal expenses	64.30
3. Donations	51.00
4. Share of District Branch Associations in the membership fees	66.00
5. Printing and stationery	64.04
6. Audit fees	50.00
7. Depreciation	75.00
8. Grandhalaya Sarvaswamu	1990.66
9. Balance	1126.11

Total Rs. 3495.67

\* A.P.L.A. Annual Report (1971-72)

TABLE IX\*

Income and Expenditure Statement for 1972-'73

Income :

1. Membership fees	Rs. 2900.00
2. Income from the life membership fees	1000.00
3. Stock of publications	786.09
4. Donations	500.00
	<hr/>
	5186.09
	<hr/>

Expenditure :

1. Publications	786.09
2. Travel	18.05
3. Postal Expenses	92.00
4. Donations	66.40
5. Share of Districts Branch Associations in the membership fees	281.00
6. Printing and stationery	48.91
7. Audit fees	50.00
8. Depreciation	68.00
9. Grandhalaya Sarvaswamu	919.30
10. Goods purchased	10.30
11. Balance	2846.04
	<hr/>
	5186.09

\* A.P.L.A. Annual Report (1972-73)

These statements conceal the actual financial position of the Association much more than what they reveal to us. Furthermore, the readers may gather an impression that the Association has surplus income for the simple reason that the statements of expenditure have a heading of account: Balance (unspent income). This is an erroneous impression as we will show below.

These statements are not representative annual financial position of the Association. When the contributions from the Membership fees decline in any year due to poor enrolment of members, the deficit is compensated by income drawn from Grandhalaya Trust and Publications. The Secretary of the Association is a voluntary worker. It has no paid staff to manage its office and organise its activities and programmes. We note, its



chief heads of expenditure in 1947 include staff, publicity, printing and publications, and travel. These services of the Association were reduced to the minimum extent by 1971-73. The Secretary, faced with the acute shortage of funds, is maintaining the Association with a frugal budget and a skeleton of services. The amount under the head unspent balance is not adequate to maintain even a part-time office assistant in any year. Hence, we must conclude that the financial resources of the Association are severely limited and awfully inadequate to support its fullfledged programmes.

## NOTES

1. 'Grandhalaya Sarvaswamu,' Vol. I, No.1, p. 61 ff. See, Adiseshuvu, H. 'Sri Bhupatiraju Tirupatiraju' (Kumudavalli, 1971), pp. 79-80.
2. Leonard, John, Cited by Eliot, M. Carolyn. "Decline of a Patrimonial Regime: The Telangana Rebellion in India 1946-51," 'The Journal of Asian Studies.' Vol. XXXIV, No.1, Nov. 1974, p. 39.
3. Mangamma, J. 'Book Printing in India with Special Reference to the Contributions of European Scholars to Telugu' (1746-1857) Nellore, 1975, p. 48.
4. Narayana Rao, K. V.: 'The Emergence of Andhra Pradesh,' Bombay, 1973, pp. 14-15.
5. Narasayya, S. V.; Reddi, K. S.; Radha Krishna Murti, G.; Koteswara Rao, A.K.R.B. (eds.): 'Andhra Darsini,' Vijayawada, 1954, p. 655.
6. Gopala Reddy, B.: "Nelluru Grandhalayalu—Oka Samkshipta Charitra" in 'Nellore Zilla Grandhalaya Samstha Souvenir 1971,' (Ed.) N. Harischandra Reddy, Nellore, 1971.

The following passages about this reading room are very interesting :

"March 6, 1839. The reading room is established and much approved. The doors are opened before six in the morning, but there are always people waiting outside, ready for the first movement they can get in. Always twenty or thirty at a time sitting there, and about a hundred come in course of the day. The wall is hung divers of your penny pictures, which are much admired, especially that of the Queen on horse back. We have found plenty of suitable books in English, Hindostonee, Tamul, and Gentoo; and I think it seems

to be a very petty invention, and likely to give great satisfaction" (p. 117).

"We lately received a petition, signed by the Principal People, Cheafly Mussulmans, in several surrounding villages, begging us to supply them with books of the same kind as those in our reading room mentioning the names of several that they particularly wish to have and saying that they will thankfully pay for them, if we will only procure them. Therefore we have now, a sort of circulating library in the district. We consign a pocket of books to the head man in the village, and he passes them to the rest, and when they are all read, we send out a fresh supply" (p. 118).

Letters from Madras during 1836-1839, by a Lady. New Ed., London, John Murray, 1946.

7. "Andhra Desa Library Association Rules and Regulations." 'Grandhalaya Sarvaswamu,' Vol. 3:1, 1918, p. 118.

8. Narayana Rao, K. V. op. cit., p. 55.

9. Ramachandra Rao, T.: 'Torch-Bearers of The Public Library Movement,' Gudivada, 1974, p. 2.

10. "Andhra Desa Grandhalaya Sanghamu, Nibandhanalu," 'Grandhalaya Sarvaswamu,' Vol. 3:1, 1918, pp. 118-124.

11. The manuscript of the Report of Sub-Committee which provided draft proposals, considered and adopted on the 25th December, 1938, is available in A. D. L. A. records.

12. 'Andhra Pradesh Grandhalaya Sanghamu Objectives, Rules and Regulations,' Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh Grandhalaya Sanghamu, 1968.

13. 'Grandhalaya Sarvaswamu,' Vol. 3:1, 1918, p. 100.

## ACTIVITIES OF A. P. L. A.

### ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSOCIATION

The Association has a distinguished record of activities in the development of public libraries. It is chiefly responsible for creating a wide popular base for library movement. It continues to stimulate the love for knowledge among the public, and identify and signify the role of libraries in the social and economic reconstruction of our country. Thus, it seeks to create a viable base for library movement.

#### Public Library Movement

The Association is a harbinger of public library movement in Andhra. It is estimated that there were approximately 120 libraries in Andhra in 1914. Most of these libraries were established by enlightened individuals and provided restricted access to the readers. Firstly, the Association fostered the physical growth of libraries in numbers and size. For example, by 1915 the number of libraries in Andhra increased to 212 from 120 in 1914, by 1918 to 474; and by 1919 to 586.<sup>1</sup> It is

estimated that now there are more than 3,000 libraries in Andhra. Secondly, the Association publicised the important role of libraries in social and economic development. It strongly advocated the need for learning by the public. It cultivated and spread the notion that the library is a centre of knowledge and information, and hence of great public concern and interest. It stressed the 'public' character of libraries—that they shall be accessible to all readers. The manifesto of A.D.L.A. on public libraries is the law of the library or 'Grandhalaya Veda,' which has been set out by Chilakamarti Lakshmi Narasimham (Presidential Address to the Conference of the librarians of Andhra Desa on the 10th April, 1914) as noted below:

The Suns' light brightens everything;

So shall knowledge dispel darkness  
and brighten every life.

Air gives life to all and is freely accessible;

So shall knowledge be within the reach of all,  
breathing life-vigour into them.

Clear water quenches the thirst of all;

So shall knowledge satisfy  
the curiosity of the curious  
and the hunger of the hungry for it.

Libraries become agencies of social and economic change by giving new ideas and information to all persons. It encouraged the establishment of special Sections for children and women in libraries, and in fact five special libraries for women were opened in 1915.<sup>2</sup> Iyyanki studied Baroda library movement in 1917 and introduced special Divisions for women and children in the libraries, and devised a scheme of classification for Telugu books based on 'Bordon' scheme. It greatly emphasized the idea that books are useful for all people. Thus, both the quantitative expansion and qualitative significance of libraries owe a great deal to the dedicated efforts of the Association.

This is by no means an easy task in the context of overall illiteracy and poverty of the society. In the early period, the Association employed paid organising



secretaries and publicists who conducted planned tours of several districts, gave lectures on library movement and how to run libraries, established libraries, enrolled members and collected donations for the Association, etc. This particular activity was a self-sufficient activity in the sense that the amount collected by Organising Secretaries as donations and membership fees for the Association was a little more than the salary and allowances paid by the Association. These secretaries and publicists have built up massive support structure for the library movement.<sup>3</sup> Furthermore, the President, Secretary and other office-bearers of the Association extensively toured the rural and urban areas and gave lectures on the significance and techniques of librarianship. For example, in the year 1938-39, the Secretary of the Association gave 30 lectures.<sup>4</sup>

### **Rural Libraries**

It is the first Association to undertake a systematic and large-scale promotion and organisation of village libraries. The Association envisaged that rural development was the base for national liberation. Village library was perceived as the centre-piece of rural development. The Association gave top priority to the rural libraries. It helped the establishment and organisation of several hundreds of village libraries. It means the library is not a sheltered place to serve the literate people only. On the contrary, village libraries addressed themselves to educate the illiterate masses. The Association deliberately promoted a new concept of library service and developed the required tools to serve the rural people. This role of the Association assumes greater significance in the back-drop of two basic features of Indian village life. First, libraries and facilities for reading have no place either in homes or social institutions of the village. Second, due to the conditions of poverty and ways of earning their livelihood (by manual labour), rural people are not interested in reading and acquisition of knowledge. Hence, they do not appre-

ciate the value of libraries. The fact that the Association created a diffused awareness of the value of libraries among the rural masses is an achievement of first rank order.

The Association upheld and published a novel image of library service. It has two component parts. Firstly, the village library is an information centre. It is the pivot of social and cultural life of village. It is a community centre. In the words of Iyyanki Venkata Ramanayya, the founder of Andhra Library Movement, "To us the library is a social service centre for the whole village, where human activity throbbed with life and animation for the uplift of the country."<sup>5</sup> Newton Mohan Dutt said that "the Andhra Desa has developed quite a new type of library incorporating in its organisation, amongst others, the hoary indigenous institutions of the Hindu temple and the ancient village community and the modern public library."<sup>6</sup> Secondly, according to Iyyanki Venkata Ramanayya, "the duty of a librarian, especially in a village, is not only to lend books to those who can read but also to attract the illiterates to the library and to give them orally information and knowledge contained in the papers, books and periodicals on every problem confronted by the illiterate persons in their daily life and routine and thus to strengthen, by judicious advice, the urge for literacy gradually created in them. The librarian should get acquainted with every illiterate in his village or area of service, understand his problems, sympathise with him and attract him to the library ultimately to make him capable of using books in which he would find his true and never-failing friends and guides."<sup>7</sup> In other words, the librarian is an active agent for dissemination of information and stimulating the interest of the public in reading and education. The librarian should interact and mould the attitude of the people towards the library. The librarian shall have a deep sense of social commitment and awareness to render socially meaningful and relevant services through libraries. Libraries and librarians are organic parts of the society. Their mis-



sion is to educate people in the larger sense of national awakening and social and economic development. No wonder, the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi visited Vijayawada at the suggestion of Annie Besant to have an exchange of ideas with Iyyanki Venkata Ramanayya on the activities of rural libraries in Andhra.

Village libraries catered to the needs of rural people by arranging lectures, reading newspapers aloud at convenient hours for the benefit of groups of illiterate people; arranging news announcements in villages at stated hours, etc. It is gratifying to note that Prof. Neelamegham, A. at a Seminar on Public Libraries (1972), has suggested the same techniques (mentioned above and followed by A.D.L.A.), namely, reading out books, discussions with and among illiterate people on their problems, oral summary and digests, use of visual and audio-visual aids, and dramas and role playing; for library profession to promote social change.<sup>8</sup> Libraries have organised adult literacy centres, night schools and special reading facilities for women. Libraries have compiled annals of village and local histories; preserved literary manuscripts, copper plates, coinage of older periods, monuments of architecture and sculpture. They conducted music concerts, cultural festivals specially in the season of Spring ('Vasantostavamulu'), games and sports events, literary and scientific competitions. Libraries arranged book exhibitions and classes on rural sanitation and public health, organisation of co-operative societies, agriculture and cottage industries. They were centres of social service programmes like the famine and fire relief; and social reform activities such as the advancement of scheduled castes, women, prohibition of alcoholic beverages, etc. Libraries used indigenous and popular techniques of publicity such as bhajans (devotional group singing, sometimes accompanied by dancing), harikathas, burrakathas (popular mediums of narration of stories by combining singing, music, acting and narration), street dramas puppet plays, recitation of puranas and ballads. They have also used

magic lanterns, wall-posters and gramophone records to reach the illiterate masses. All these techniques were employed by the Association to promote library movement and create a mass base for it. As stated by G. Harisarvottama Rao, the Association "has kept the torch of service for the culture of our rural population burning. In fact, it is the first association in India to draw attention to the rural library and its organisation."<sup>9</sup>

### Library Conferences

The Association conducts Andhra Desa library conferences which are attended by the members, and delegates of libraries. It also helps the District and Taluk associations in organising their conferences. These conferences are avenues to publicise library movement, hold seminars and discussions on matters of professional interest and concern, and foster professional fraternity. The Association encouraged and lent support to the District and Taluk associations to hold several conferences. Book exhibitions are held at these conferences. The first book exhibition was held at the fourth conference (Baruva, Ganjam District, 1917), and at the fifth conference (Vizagapatam, 1919) the second book exhibition, and the first Indian Newspaper Exhibition were held.<sup>10</sup>

TABLE I

#### List of Andhra Library Conferences

S.No.	Year	Place	President of the Conference	President of the Reception Committee
1	2	3	4	5
1.	1914	Bezawada	Ch. Lakshmi Narasimham	S. Venkata Narasimha Sastri
2.	1915	Rajahmundry	P. Ramaniyam (Raja of Panagal)	B. S. Narasimha Rao
3.	1916	Nellore	K. Nageswararao	M. Chengayya

1	2	3	4	5
4.	1917	Baruva (Ganjam Dt.)	B. Venkatapati Raju	A. P. Patro
5.	1918	Vizagapatam	K. Venkata- krishna Rao	Vikramadeva Varma
6.	1919	Madras	S. Venkata Nara- simha Sastri	S. Venkatachalam Sreshti
7.	1920	Mahanandi (Kurnool Dt.)	Ch. Virabhadra rao	Sarabha Reddi
8.	1923	Pamidipadu (Guntur Dt.)	D. Gopala- krishnayya	B. Raghava Rao
9.	1925	Machilipatnam	G. Rangayya Naidu	P. Suri Sastri
10.	1926	Pedacherukuru (Guntur Dt.)	V. Ramadas	K. Venkataraya Sarma
11.	1926	Eluru	N. Krishna Rao	
12.	1927	Ananthapuram	R. Anantakrishna Sarma	
13.	1928	Guntur	Ch. Bhanumurti	D. Hanumanta Rao
14.	1931	Guntur	B. Sheshagirirao	
15.	1933	Bezawada	B. Sitaramaraju	M. Ramachandrarao
16.	1933	Bezawada	Ch. Narasimha- rao	T. Jagannadha Rao
17.	1934	Kakinada	V. Ramadas	D. V. S. Prakasa Rao
18.	1934	Kakinada	B. Sitabayamma	N. Yoganandarao
<b>Library Field Worker's Conference I:</b>				
19.	1934	Madras	D. Trivikrama Rao	K. Nageswara Rao
20.	1935	Vizagapatam	S. Ramaswami	P. Appalaswami
<b>Library Field Worker's Conference II :</b>				
21.	1937	Bezawada	V. Venkateswara Sastri	
22.	1941	Rajahmundry	M. Ramachandra Sastri	A. Sankar Rao
<b>Special Confe- rence on Adult Education :</b>				
	1941	Tenali	G. Hari Sar- vottama Rao	R. Satyanarayana
23.	1942	Pedapalem (Guntur Dt.)	S. Pratapa Reddy	P. Seetaramaiah
24.	1942-43	Hindupur	M. Lakshminara- yana Rao	R. Raja Rao
25.	1944	Singareni Colleries	B. Ramakrishna- rao	P. Srinivasa Rao
26.	1946	Kyaturu	P. Venkatarama Reddi	S. Rangareddi
<b>Special Confe- rence on Madras Library Bill :</b>				
	1948	Patamata (Bezawada)	G. Hari Sarvot- tama Rao	K. Sitaramayya

1	2	3	4	5
27.	1950	Suryapeta	P. Ramamurti	K. Venkateswara Rao
28.	1951	Changalamarri (Kurnool Dt.)	M. Rangayyappa Rao	R. K. Ramalinga- reddi
Conference of the Secretaries of District Li- brary Associa- tions:				
	1952	Patamata (Bezawada)	G. Hari Sar- vottama Rao	V. Kesava Rao
29.	1953	Jangoan	S. Bhagavantam	P. Venkateswara Rao
30.	1957	Khammam	M. V. Krishna Rao	
31.	1966	Vijayawada	K. Subba Rao	
32.	1967	Nellore	Smt. Durga Bai Deshmukh	
33.	1969	Tirupati	M. Ananta sayanam Aiyangar	D. Chenchu Krishna Reddy

It is noteworthy that some of these conferences were held in villages. Political leaders, social workers and library delegates assemble at these conferences. Papers and reports on various aspects of library profession and service are presented at the conferences. Inter-personal action and exchange of information among the workers of library movement is facilitated by these conferences. These conferences have great publicity value for the library movement. They stimulate interest in the library movement. Policy resolutions are approved at these conferences. All the significant accomplishments of the Association are originally formulated and suggested in the resolutions passed at the library conferences. These resolutions constitute a wealth of ideas on the library service and profession. Some of the delegates to these conferences dined at the residences of scheduled caste persons to fight against the practice of untouchability and caste inequalities. Songs focussing the value of library service are recited in melodious musical tones by individuals and groups of persons at the conferences to propagate library movement.



### Library Pilgrimages :

The most ingenious method developed by the Association to popularise library movement was library pilgrimages. It is reported that Iyyanki, Ayyadevara Kaleswara Rao, Suri Venkata Narasimha Sastri, Dantu Subbavadhani, and others visited some libraries at Bhimavaram and neighbouring villages in 1918. A part of their return journey (to Bezawada) from Gaganaparru to Pentapadu was covered by travel on boat. It seems, during the boat travel Iyyanki developed the idea of paying visits to the villages which are located on either side of the canal and urge the people to establish and run libraries. This idea was implemented and the party visited several villages for one week. This was the beginning of library pilgrimages the most remarkable and powerful technique for stimulating library consciousness among people.<sup>11</sup> This programme was devised and ably implemented by Iyyanki Venkata Ramanayya. A batch of library workers planned to tour a group of villages. This batch of library workers were divided into six sections, viz. : (1) Advance information section; (2) Bhajan section; (3) Exhibition section; (4) Gramophone section; (5) Lectures section and (6) Magic lantern section.

The Advance information section first used to reach the village and pasted posters on the walls and trees regarding libraries, and contacted the library personnel (when available), the leaders and officers of the village. The Exhibition section organised exhibition of books, magazines, etc., by the side of public meeting place (in a house or under trees). The Gramophone section played records. The Bhajan section went round the village with songs and announcements of the public meeting (and reached the place of meeting). The Lecturing section delivered lectures on several aspects of library movement. At the end of the meeting, the Magic lantern section exhibited instructive and informative pictures on health, co-operation and library services. Later, the party of library workers held discussions with the



villagers, established a library (if there was no library) or offered suggestions for the improvement of library services, etc. Then the party left for the next village. We may note the details of library pilgrimage conducted in Bhimavaram Taluk as a representative sample.<sup>12</sup>

## BHIMAVARAM TALUK LIBRARY PILGRIMAGE

1st September to the 17th September, 1934

(1) Days of travel	17 days
(2) Number of miles covered by walk	84
(3) Number of villages visited	38
(4) Number of libraries rehabilitated	4
(5) Number of libraries established	5
(6) Participated in annual functions of libraries	5
(7) Number of new workers enlisted to the library movement	100

The whole programme was well co-ordinated and conducted with laudable efficiency. This made a great psychological impact on the villagers and stirred their enthusiasm for library movement.

TABLE II\*

### List of Library Pilgrimages

Year	Number of villages visited	Leader of the pilgrim party
1934	46 villages, Bhimavaram Taluk, West Godavary Dt.	Iyyanki Venkata Ramanayya
1935	38 old and 13 newly established libraries, Tadepalligudem Taluk, West Godavary Dt.	„
1935	46 villages, Tadepalligudem Taluk, West Godavary Dt.	Iyyanki Venkata Ramanayya
1936	34 libraries and reading rooms, Repalle (division), Guntur Dt.	Y. Krishnayya
1937	16 villages, Tadepalligudem Taluk, West Godavary Dt.	T. Satyanarayana Murty
1937	24 villages, Bhimavaram Taluk, West Godavary Dt.	M. Ramachandra Sastry
1940	5 villages, Krishna Dt.	„
1940	9 villages, Guntur Dt.	K. Seeta Ramayya

\* Adiseshuvu, H.: 'Andhra Pradesh Library Association: Efforts and Achievements,' *Herald of Library Science*, Vol. 3 (1964), p. 166.

1	2	3
1941	10 villages, West Godavary Dt.	V. Surapa Raju
1947	17 villages, Kaikalur Taluk, Krishna Dt.	S. Bageswara Rao
1948	30 villages, Guntur Dt.	K. V. Subba Rao
1951	10 Districts in Andhra	K. Narayana Rao
1951	Andhra Cultural Associations outside Andhra	P. Nagabhushanam

We may add that a library pilgrimage was organised in Kovvur Taluk during 1937 and covered ten villages. Bhupatiraju Tirupati Raju, Dr T. Satyanarayana Murti and Dr. P. Satyanarayana Sarma accompanied and helped Iyyanki in conducting Library Pilgrimages. We must also note that the library tours organised by K. Narayana Rao and P. Nagabhushanam are not library pilgrimages as explained earlier. These are lecture-cum-publicity tour activities for the library movement.

The programme of library pilgrimages was conducted on a sustained basis in the coastal districts of Andhra. This programme specially promoted the growth and rehabilitation of village libraries. It helped the recruitment of full-time and part-time voluntary library workers to manage the village libraries. We may take West Godavary district as an example to indicate the impact of the programme of library pilgrimages on the growth of rural public libraries :<sup>13</sup>

### LIBRARIES IN WEST GODAVARY IN 1936

Name of the Taluk	Number of libraries	Number of library workers
Bhimavaram	56	32
Tadepalligudem	56	30
Narasapuram	25	15
Tanuku	25	15
Kovvur	7	5
Chintalapudi	2	2
Eluru	25	15
Total	196	114

The Association has encouraged mobile libraries. A special cart fixed with cycle wheels was used to circulate books in neighbouring villages by the Kuppam village library (Chittoor District). A bullock-cart was used for the same purpose in Pedasanagallu village (Krishna District). 'Friends Union Library' used bicycles to loan books in several parts of Machilipatnam. Men were employed to circulate books in nearby villages in the Jagapuram library (Visakhapatnam District).<sup>14</sup> Iyyanki introduced convenient book boxes to send books for circulation to villages and exhibited the boxes at the 5th Conference of the A.D.L.A. (Visakhapatnam, 1918). P. Naga-bhushanam conducted mobile libraries for 7 years (1935-42) on travelling boats for the benefit of passengers. The following information on the boat mobile libraries is worth noting :<sup>15</sup>

#### BOAT FROM KOLLUR TO PEDAVADLAPUDI

	Period of running mobile library	Books and journals available		Books and journals read	Average readers per day
1st year	4 months and 21 days	30	4	419	3
2nd year	8 months and 11 days	142	4	832	6

#### BOAT FROM PIDAPARRU TO PEDAVADLAPUDI

	Period of running mobile library	Books and journals available		Books and journals read	Average readers per day
1st year	3 months and 19 days	11	4	146	1.5
2nd year	7 months and 5 days	67	4	248	4

Some of the readers did not record their names and the books they read.

The boat mobile libraries were conducted from Tenali to Nizampatnam, and at other stations also. At that period, boats were important means of transport.



This is a unique and novel programme both in conception and execution. This practice created reading habit among the travellers, and thus strengthened the library movement. Mobile libraries were organised in five districts (Chittoor, Guntur, Krishna, Nizamabad and Vizagapatam). Women who were confined to homes and hence unable to visit the libraries; and residents of small hamlets and villages (which did not have libraries) were given books through mobile library services. Thus, both women and residents of remote and small villages were highly benefited by the mobile libraries.

The Association has conducted Spring Festivals to enlist popular support for library movement. During the Spring season, the villagers were free and students had holidays. The Association devised Spring Festival programmes to press the services of students in educating the public and propagating the library movement. Exhibitions, public meetings, festivals, sports and cultural activities (dramas, burrakathas, harikathas, etc.); establishment of libraries and reading rooms, collection of goods (books, furniture, etc.) and donations for the local libraries and the Association—all these activities were conducted in Spring festivals. These activities lent support for public library movement. The participation of students during their summer vacation in cultural activities and library movement of the villages is a commendable example for all the developing countries. The students had an opportunity to involve themselves in rural reconstruction programmes and thus develop a sense of fulfilment and commitment for social service. This was an opportunity for the students to work hand-in-hand with rural youth and people. In substance, the Association is a true forerunner for today's Government of India's programmes: 'Youth Against Famine,' and 'Youth Against Dirt and Disease.'

The Association maintains connections with other professional bodies. Its secretary, Iyyanki Venkata Ramanayya, visited Baroda State in 1917 to study its public library movement. The Association expressed its keen desire to participate in the Government sponsored

meeting of Indian librarians held at Lahore in 1918. Government refused permission for the Association to attend the Lahore meeting. The Association organised All India Public Libraries Conference in 1919 at Madras. The All India Public Libraries Association functioned from 1919 to 1939 at Bezawada; and the 'Indian Library Journal' was published from 1924 to 1936, with the aid and assistance of A.D.L.A. At the request of Malayalam Library Association it sent a copy of its resolutions on the Madras Public Libraries Act, 1948. It had correspondence with the Bengal Library Association. It is closely associated with South Indian Adult Education Association. The early volumes of 'Grandhalaya Sarvaswamu' contain several articles on several aspects of the American Library Association. It has published articles on the British and Soviet Library systems. These publications indicate the interest of the Association in recording and reporting the developments in librarianship outside the country. Perhaps, this knowledge helped the Association in developing some of its programmes.

The Association was interested in promoting library facilities among the Telugu-speaking people at large. It sent 400 Telugu books and 3,000 magazines to South Africa for the use of Andhra soldiers.<sup>16</sup> The Secretary and President of the Association periodically visited some centres like Jemshedpur, Kharagpur, Calcutta, etc., and met the Telugu-speaking people and offered suggestions for the improvement of library facilities (with Telugu books and magazines). The Association evinced great interest in the development of library services in Telangana region, long before the formation of Andhra Pradesh. It has conducted several library conferences in Telangana area and popularised library movement.

### **Library Legislation**

Without the support of Legislation, the status, physical and financial position of the libraries were uneven and



irregular. In 1917, the Association gave a representation to V. S. Sivaswamy Aiyar (Member, Madras Governor's Executive Council) to allow the local bodies like the Municipalities, District Boards, etc., to give financial assistance to libraries. The Government permitted the local bodies to support libraries. As a consequence, Municipal Libraries were established in Bezawada and Guntur, and several District Boards gave grants to libraries. In the early period of its activities, the Association was chiefly interested in obtaining some concessions from the Government of Madras to give annual contributions to libraries.<sup>17</sup> The Government of Madras introduced annual grants to public libraries from 1920. The Association appealed to the Government to permit the local bodies to contribute for the library finances and join the Association as corporate members.<sup>18</sup> These efforts did give positive results. For, the then Government (vide, the Education and Health Department Memorandum No. 51433/38A-3, dated the 9th May, 1939) granted permission to local bodies in Andhra Districts to become institutional members of the A.D.L.A., and pay affiliation fees and annual subscriptions. The Association through several resolutions,<sup>19</sup> appealed to the Government to cancel the registration fees of Rs. 50/- in the case of libraries. It rightly argued that the abolition of registration fees will prove to be a boon for village libraries, and help large-scale registration of rural libraries. These appeals also were partially successful. The Government reduced registration fees to Rs. 20/- for those libraries that applied for it. The Association prepared and circulated a booklet regarding the rules and procedures for library registration, and thus helped the registration of many libraries and reading rooms.

The Association considered that sound library legislation was a sine qua non for library movement. At several of its conferences the Association urged the Madras Government to enact a Library Act. In a petition given to the Government in the early part of 1947, it reiterated the relevance of Public Libraries Act. The Madras Government published the Draft Bill of Public

Libraries (Act) in December, 1947. The Association held a Special Conference at Patamata on the 16th January, 1948 and discussed the provisions of the Draft Bill, and offered its comments.

The Association felt that the library was the most useful and significant instrument for educating the rural people; hence, the Bill may be called the Madras Library and Adult Education Bill. Aided libraries (libraries that were run by private agencies with the financial assistance of Government) were less expensive than the libraries directly managed by Government; therefore aided libraries must be encouraged and supported by the Government. Grant-in-aid Code to help aided libraries may be incorporated in the Act. The State Library Committee shall have recommendatory powers. Simple service rules were suggested for library staff. One central library for each of the linguistic areas of Madras Presidency, and one district library for each of the districts were recommended. The Association appointed a sub-committee comprising of 9 members including its President and Secretary, to prepare amendments to the Public Library Bill in consonance with the resolutions passed at the Conference, and make additional changes and take necessary steps as it may think fit.<sup>20</sup>

G. Hari Sarvottama Rao, the then President of the Association, gave evidence before Select Committee of the Legislature on Public Libraries Bill, and communicated the views of the Association. However, most of the suggestions of the Association were not accepted by the Government. Anyway, its keen interest in library legislation and its active support eventually made the Government to enact the first Library Law in India in 1948.

The Madras Public Libraries Act, 1948, was implemented from the 1st April, 1950. The Secretary of the Association, P. Nagabhushanam was elected by the Association as a Member of the State Library Committee which was formed after the enforcement of the Act. After the establishment of Andhra State, the represen-

tation for the Association on the State Library Committee was increased to two seats, and G. Hari Sarvotama Rao, President of the Association, was elected to the State Library Committee. Now, the Association has three representatives on the State Library Committee.

The Association convened another special meeting (Bezawada, 30-8-1952) of the Secretaries of District Library Associations in Andhra, to consider and suggest measures for the proper implementation of Madras Public Libraries Act. S. R. Ranganathan and M. V. Krishna Rao, Minister for Education, Government of Madras, attended this meeting as special invitee and chief-guest respectively. The suggestion of the Association that only representatives of the libraries may be appointed as members of 'Zilla Grandhalaya Samstha' was accepted by the Government. Another request that the staff of the Central and Branch libraries may be given the pay and status of secondary grade teachers; and the holders of certificates issued by the Association may be appointed to these positions, was also accepted by the Government. Further, it suggested that the Government shall create facilities for adult education in the libraries, and give greater financial help to libraries. The grant-in-aid Code may be consolidated. At the State level, a Director of Public Libraries, and at the District level, a District Library Secretary may be appointed to relieve the public libraries from the control of the Director of Public Instruction and District Educational Officers. All these suggestions were communicated to the Government.<sup>21</sup>

As a result of the formation of Andhra Pradesh in 1956, the Madras Public Libraries Act (1948) and the Hyderabad Public Libraries Act (1955, passed but not enforced) were replaced by the Andhra Pradesh Public Libraries Act, 1960. A sub-committee of the State Library Committee consisting of five members including P. Nagabhushanam, Secretary, A.P.L.A., was appointed by the Government to consolidate the two Acts (Madras and Hyderabad). The Government of Andhra Pradesh issued Gazette publication of the new Public Libraries



Bill on the 25th July, 1959. The Executive Council of A.P.L.A. resolved to hold a seminar on the proposed Bill quite in advance of the legislative discussion of the Bill. Kodati Narayana Rao was designated as the Convener of the Seminar, which was held in October/November, 1959. The October 1959 issue of 'Grandhalaya Sarvaswamu' carried an editorial on the Bill, and S. R. Ranganathan's Article, Andhra Pradesh Public Library Bill critique and amendments; and related materials. The November (1959) issue of 'Grandhalaya Sarvaswamu' carried detailed analysis of the Bill. It was suggested that the Director of Public Libraries should be under the control of State Library Committee. Social (extension) education should be associated or entrusted to the Public Libraries, and several other proposals were made. In 1960, when the Andhra Pradesh Public Libraries Bill was referred to the Select Committee, the President of the Association Kodati Narayana Rao; and a devoted and long time worker of library movement Vavilala Gopala Krishnayya, M.L.A., gave evidence, and played significant role in shaping the Bill. At the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the Association held in May 1964, a special discussion was conducted on the A.P. Public Libraries Act. 'Grandhalaya Sarvaswamu,' the official monthly organ of the Association published a large number of editorial comments and learned Articles on the working of Public Libraries Act. A sub-committee of A.P.L.A. consisting of Iyyanki, Majeti Ramachandra Rao and Velaga Venkatappaiah suggested amendments to the Library Act. Detailed analysis and significant suggestions are made on various problems and aspects of the Public Library Act.

As a result, at the State level Andhra Pradesh has a Directorate of Public Libraries since 1961, and a Director of Public Libraries since January, 1967. At the district level, the librarian of the District Central Library is now the Secretary of Zilla Grandhalaya Samstha. A sub-committee of A.P.L.A. comprising A. Srinivasa Rao, B.V. Ramarao and Velaga Venkatappaiah prepared a

draft for Grant-in-aid Code. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has prepared (not enforced) in 1968-69 a Grant-in-aid Code to systematise the sanction of financial assistance to libraries. The Association has three representatives on the State Library Committee. The District Library Association has two representatives on the Local Library Authority Committee (Zilla Grandhalaya Samstha). At the suggestion of the Association, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has accepted to nominate only those persons who have rendered eminent service to the cause of libraries or education, to the Local Library Authority. It is clear from the above account that the Association has a creditable record in the field of library legislation.

### **Education for Librarianship**

The Association recognised the key-role played by the trained and competent professional librarians in organising and conducting the libraries. It has rightly attributed the chief reason for the decline of libraries to the non-availability of trained librarians. It also realised that the universities had no interest in education for librarianship. It passed several resolutions requesting the Andhra University to start courses in librarianship.<sup>22</sup> Its efforts did not bear fruit in this direction. Hence, it took upon itself to organise courses in librarianship.

In the early period (before 1966), the Association conducted two courses, namely: (1) 'Grandhalaya Pravesika' and (2) 'Grandhalaya Visarada.' The content of the courses had changed over time. It may not be wrong to say that 'Pravesika' is thirty days course, which covers introductory lessons in library organisation; library administration; special libraries; history of Telugu literature; and social sciences. 'Visarada' is three months course with full professional training. The Association is organising Certificate Course regularly since 1966. This course is recognised by the Government of Andhra Pradesh for purposes of employment in public libraries. This is a four-months course, and Telugu



language is the medium of instruction and examination. Advanced courses in library organisation, library administration, reference service, bibliography, book selection, classification and cataloguing are offered. Leaders of library movement and eminent public men are invited to give special lectures to these classes. Adult education and social extension service programmes constitute integral parts of this course. The students of this course are given an orientation to interact with the environment and employ unconventional methods like giving oral information to the rural people on matters bearing on their daily life, etc. Librarianship is perceived as an active agency to enrich the social and cultural life of the community. The restricted vision of librarianship as a technical profession is supplemented by the deliberately cultivated view that librarianship in poor countries ought to function as a stimulating agency for social and economic development. This notion of librarianship is incorporated into the instructional programmes by the Association.

The following statements give us relevant information about these courses :

### GRANDHALAYA PRAVESIKA

Year in which course was offered	Place	Number of students
1920	Bezawada	20
1934	"	32
1941	Patamata	21
1943	Revendrapadu	3
1945	"	9 (4 from Telengana, 2 from Vizag, 2 from Guntur and 1 from Krishna)
1946	Pedapalem	9 (2 from Rayalaseema, 1 from Telengana, 6 from coastal Andhra)
1948	Garikaparru	39 (out of which 6 were women, 1 from Jemshedpur)
1955	Jaggapuram	30 (Refresher course)
1956	Pedapalem	17
1962	Moida Vijaya Ram puram	84 (Refresher course)

## GRANDHALAYA VISARADA

Year in which course was offered	Place	Number of students of candidates
1954	Vijayawada	4
1956	Pedapalem	12 (course incomplete)

## GRANDHALAYA CERTIFICATE COURSE

Year in which course was offered	Place	Number of students or candidates
1966	Vijayawada	47 (Out of which 3 were Women)
1967	"	49 (6 Women)
1967-'68	"	45 (3 Women)
1970	"	45 (3 Women)
1970-'71	"	47 (6 Women)
1971-'72	"	42 (10 Women)
1972-73	"	46 (8 Women)
1973-74	"	42 (12 Women)
1974	"	40 (7 Women)
1975	"	49 (11 Women)
1975-'76	"	52 (17 Women)
1976	"	51 (8 Women)
1977	"	48 (10 Women)

The courses are recognised by the Government since 1966 for purposes of employment in public libraries. Velaga Venkatappaiah was the first Principal of the School of Library Science which organised Certificate Course. His role in prescribing the syllabi and textbooks of the course and setting the course on firm basis is worthy of special mention. The Association is a pioneering institution in organising courses in librarianship. It is interesting to note that the entire expenditure incurred for organising the first Pravesika course in 1920 was contributed by Andhra Kesari T. Prakasam.

## ADULT EDUCATION

The Association has been deeply concerned with the promotion of adult education. This has been a major

field of its activities. There are several causes to explain the linkage of the Association with adult education programmes. It desired to make the library movement truly a people's concern. Adult education programmes organised in the libraries undoubtedly help to make libraries popular institutions. Adult education is a source of social and cultural renaissance. The Association felt that libraries ought to be centres of social and cultural change. The leaders of the Association had firm faith in the tremendous potentialities of adult education in changing the face of rural India. Rural libraries which were established with the help of the Association, conducted night schools, arranged lectures, newspaper reading and news announcements, used harikathas, burrakathas, magic lanterns, celebrated national festivals, etc., to educate the illiterate people. The Association stimulated and sustained the interest of libraries in adult education through lectures, correspondence, supply of teaching and reading materials, etc. G. Hari Sarvottama Rao, President, A.P.L.A., as Honorary Director of Training Centres for adult literacy teachers (managed by the Government) helped the training of large number of elementary teachers in the methods of teaching adult literacy classes. The President and Secretary of the Association were respectively Vice-President and Regional Secretary of the South Indian Adult Education Association (1939). G. Hari Sarvottama Rao was President of the Board of Directors of the S.I.A.E. Co-operative Publishing Society Ltd., and the Secretary of A.P.L.A. was one of the Directors. This Co-operative Publishing Society prepared and published teaching and reading materials for adult literacy classes. The A.P.L.A. functioned as the regional branch of S.I.A.E.A. for purposes of adult education. It celebrated adult education weeks for several years. Its delegates attended adult education conferences, seminars and read papers. It trained large number of adult education teachers. Adult education was one of the subjects offered to the candidates who joined the 'Prave-sika' and 'Visarada' Library Science courses conducted

by the Association. The official monthly organ of the Association 'Grandhalaya Sarvasvamu' is devoted to the cause of libraries and adult education. Its Secretary was trained for six weeks in 1949 at a training camp for teachers of adult education, conducted by the Government. Its Secretary and P. Suryanarayana have attended one month workshop (1954, Mysore) devoted to train persons in preparing reading materials for neo-literates.

The Association played a remarkable role in preparing and publishing teaching and reading materials for adult literacy classes. It published in 1940 'Adult Education, Part I' (in Telugu) written by G. Hari Sarvottama Rao. This is a widely used book in adult education classes. It also published a book on 'Teaching Methods of Adult Education' by G. Hari Sarvottama Rao in 1947. A book of poems on adult education by K. Durgamallikarjunarao was published in 1952. This book is extremely useful for giving publicity to adult education programmes at conferences, processions, etc. It helped the publication of 'Ma Patalu' in two parts (Textbook for adult education classes in Telugu) by G. Ramachandrarao in 1944. Part two and three of Sarvottama Rao's work on 'Adult Education' were published with the help of the Association. All these publications are specially designed to promote adult literacy programmes. The Association prepared pictures and alphabet charts and drawings to support adult education programmes.

The Government of Madras prohibited adult education programmes in 1941 due to the suspected infiltration of communists into adult literacy centres. The Association firmly believed that the decision of the Government was wrong. Several Resolutions were passed protesting against the order of the Government. The Association criticised the views of the District Educational Officer of Guntur on adult education. It convened and conducted a special conference on Adult Education in 1941 at Tenali. Dr. P. Subbarayan, Minister for Education, Government of Madras, inaugurated this conference. The conference protested against the deci-



sion of the Government to ban adult education classes and demanded its early repeal. It took steps to form popular committees at Taluk level to fight against the Government order. It appointed a committee of 8 members representing the youth, women, students, agriculturists, libraries and labourers to negotiate with the Government for the withdrawal of its orders. This committee was headed by G. Hari Sarvottama Rao, and other members were: G. Ramachandrarao, Ch. Chalapatirao, K. Rajagopalarao, R. Satyanarayana, Smt. G. Bharati Devi, B. Jagannadha Das and one student. The Government of Madras cancelled its orders prohibiting adult education programmes in 1942.

The Conference made several recommendations for the promotion of adult education. It suggested that books and pamphlets on all useful subjects should be published in spoken Telugu language for the benefit of common people. Part-time schools and mobile lecturers were useful to educate people. Audio-visual aids like the magic lanterns are recommended to give scientific knowledge to people. All libraries are advised to organise night schools. An appeal was made to the Local Boards to encourage adult literacy programmes. A standing committee under the presidentship of G. Hari Sarvottama Rao with eleven members was formed to promote adult education. Numbers 3 and 4 of 'Andhra Grandhalayamu' (Bi-lingual quarterly of A.D.L.A.), Vol. II, were published as a special volume on adult education. All the resolutions passed, papers read, and speeches and proceedings at the Conference is a landmark in the history of adult education in Andhra.

Adult education conferences were held as sectional meetings of library conferences from 1942. These sectional meetings provided an opportunity for the workers of adult literacy programmes to exchange their experiences and promote a feeling of fellowship. Papers are read at these meetings and all problems relating to adult education are discussed. Books and materials of adult literacy programmes are exhibited at these meetings.



The A.D.L.A., in association with other organisations, conducted the several classes in adult education, at various places over a number of years. The following Table indicates in chronological order the place and number of participants in the centres of adult education, conducted either by the Association or in collaboration with other agencies :<sup>23</sup>

Year	Place	Number of participants
1940	Bezawada	50
	Pedapudi	25
	Manchikalapudi	45
	Sangamjagarlamudi	57
	Amartalur	25
	Vadapalli	NA (figures not available)
	Pedapadu	NA
	Guntur	NA
	Kakinada	NA
	Moparru	NA
	Bapatla	NA
	Vizianagaram	NA
	Pypalli	NA
	Narasapuram	NA
	Kalahasti	NA
	Venkatagiri	NA
1941	Bezawada	420
	"	43
	Guntur	400
	Eluru	180
	Nellore	300
	Cuddapah	200
	"	NA
	Yelamarru	100
	Tamelagollapalli	80
	Maddur	25
	Machilipatnam	35
	Ungutur	150
	Uppugundur	100
	Moparru	50
	Alapadu	60
	Revendrapadu	40
	Vargipuram	77
	Gudavalli	40
	Madala	50
	Repalli	100
	Kollur	45
	Tenali	70
	Bapatla	NA
1945	Guntur District	11
1946	Guntur District	15
	Cuddapah	5
	Guntur	6

1	2	3
1948	Garikaparru	39
1949	Jaggapuram	40
	Bezawada	NA
1950	Mangalagiri	18
	Kodad	21
	Visakhapatnam	11
	Hyderabad	100
	Bezawada	NA
1964	Bezawada	NA
1955	Madhira	NA

The duration of these courses varied from one week to three months. Some of these courses were conducted to train teachers for adult literacy programmes. In fact, the candidates trained in 1940, have conducted adult literacy classes in 1941. This explains the massive adult literacy campaign conducted in 1941, in addition to the challenging response of the Association to the Government's prohibitory orders against adult education.

### **Publications :**

The Association has been active from the beginning in the publication of professional and otherwise useful literature for the development of librarianship. Production of technical literature is difficult because of paucity of skills and knowledge, and uneconomical as a business venture. Hence, the Association undertook the responsibility of publishing professional literature. In its various publications, it has developed technical vocabulary for the first time in Telugu language to convey the body of library science knowledge. This is a remarkable achievement of the Association.

The Association is publishing 'Grandhalaya Sarvasvamu' from 1915 in Telugu language. At the beginning, it was a quarterly magazine for two years; later on it became a bi-monthly for three years; and a monthly for one year. Its publication ceased in 1922 and it reappeared in 1928. It was not published during the years 1930-33, and was revived in 1934, and from then it has

a continuous record of publication. This journal is an official organ of the Association, and records the activities of the Association and its affiliated Associations, and publishes useful articles on library science, librarianship, and adult education, besides news and reviews of books.

It also published 'Andhra Grandhalayamu,' a bi-lingual quarterly during the years 1939-41. On behalf of the All India Public Libraries Association founded by the leaders of Andhra library movement, the Association published 'Indian Library Journal' from 1924-36.

Similarly, the Association took keen interest in the publication of books. These publications could be divided into three categories: (A) Books on library profession; (B) Books on adult education; and (C) other publications. Let us make a brief review of these publications:

#### (A) BOOKS ON LIBRARY PROFESSION

- (1) 'Sarvajanika Grandhalayalu' (Public Libraries) (ADLA, 1914).
- (2) 'Andhra Desa Grandha Bhandagara Pratinidhula Mahasabha Vrttantamu' (History of the Conference of the Representatives of Libraries in Andhra Desa) (ADLA, 1914).
- (3) 'Andhra Desa Grandhalayacharitra 1914' (History of the Libraries in Andhra Desa 1914) (ADLA, 1915).
- (4) 'List of Libraries in Andhra Desa,' Compiled by Iyyanki (ADLA, 1915) (Reissued in 1917).
- (5) 'Andhra Desa Grandhalaya Charitra 1915' (History of the Libraries in Andhra Desa 1915) (ADLA, 1916).
- (6) 'Dharma Grandhalayamulu' (Public Libraries) (ADLA, 1918).
- (7) 'Grandhalayodyamamu—Andhrula Siddhantamu' (A Theory of Library Movement of Andhra) (ADLA, 1918).
- (8) 'Grandhalayodyamamu' (Library Movement): By Y. Lakshmi Venkata Ramana (ADLA, 1923).
- (9) 'Andhra Vanjmaya Sangraha Suchika' (A Biblio-

graphical Guide of Telugu Books), Sponsored by the ADLA, Compiled by V. Srinivasarao (Madras, 1927).

(10) 'Andhra Bhasha Grandhamula Vargikarana Pad-dhati.' (A Scheme for Classification of Telugu Books) (ADLA, 1938).

(11) 'Andhra Desa Grandhalayamula Pattika' (List of Libraries in Andhra Desa): Compiled by P. Nagabhushanam (ADLA, 1939).

(12) 'Colon classification of Telugu Literature': By S. R. Ranganathan (ADLA, 1944). This is a supplementary volume of the Proceedings of the 25th Conference of ADLA.

(13) 'Andhra Grandhamulu: Modati-Jabita' (Telugu Books: First List) compiled by P. Nagabhushanam (ADLA, 1945).

(14) 'Grandhalaya Geetalu' (Songs and Poems on Libraries) Edited by P. Nagabhushanam (ADLA, 1946) (Reissued in 1961). This is a collection of poems and songs to publicise library movement. Songs and poems on library movement are useful for recitation at Conferences, Meetings and Seminars to stimulate popular interest. Given the emotional undertones of Andhra masses and lyrical felicity of Telugu language, these songs and poems are very effective for popularising library movement.

(15) 'Grandhalaya Sastra Pradhama Patamulu' (Basic Principles of Library Science): By P. Nagabhushanam (Pedapalem, 1947; reprinted in 1972). This is an introductory volume on Library Science, mainly based on the Five Laws of Library Science by Ranganathan, S. R. The Association helped its publication.

(16) 'Grandhalayamulu Registration' (Registration of Libraries): By P. Nagabhushanam (Vijayawada, 1947) (Reissued in 1953).

(17) 'Telugu Pustaka Vargikaranamu' (Classification of Telugu Books): By P. Nagabhushanam (ADLA, 1950).

(18) 'Grandhalayala Pracharamu, Vijnana Vyapti' (Library Publicity and Dissemination of knowledge through Extension Activities): By P. Nagabhushanam (ADLA, 1950).



- (19) 'Grandhalaya Sutralu' (Principles of Libraries): Translated by P. Nagabhushanam (ADLA, 1950).
- (20) 'Madarasu Paura Grandhalayamula chattamu' (Madras Public Libraries Act): By P. Nagabhushanam (ADLA, 1951).
- (21) 'Patana Mandiralu' (Reading Rooms): By P. Nagabhushanam (ADLA, 1951).
- (22) 'Grandhalaya Suktulu' (Sayings of Libraries): Compiled by P. Nagabhushanam (ADLA, 1955).
- (23) 'Andhra Pradesh Grandhalayodyamamu' (Library Movement in Andhra Pradesh): By P. Nagabhushanam. (ADLA, 1957).
- (24) 'Grandhalayamulu (Vyasavali)-Modati Bhagamu' (Libraries: Essays, Part one): By P. Nagabhushanam (Hyderabad, 1951, reprinted in 1972). This is a series of essays on librarianship and the Association helped its publication.
- (25) 'Andhra Vangmaya Sangraha Suchika' (List of selected Telugu Books): Edited by P. Nagabhushanam, with the assistance of V. Venkatappaiah and M. Jaganmohanarao; Sponsored by APLA (APLA, 1962).
- (26) 'Grandhalaya Pragati - Modati Bhagamu' (Progress of Libraries - Part One): Edited by P. Nagabhushanam (APLA, 1962). It contains Presidential Addresses and Resolutions of the first ten Andhra Library Conferences (1914-26).
- (27) 'Grandhalaya Pragati-Rendava Bhagamu' (Progress of Libraries - Part Two): Edited by P. Nagabhushanam (APLA, 1969). It contains selected Presidential Addresses of the Andhra Library Conferences held from 1926-42; ADLA constitution of 1938; and biographical sketches of the Presidents of Conferences; and detailed statements of office-holders of the ADLA for the period.
- (28) 'Grandhalaya Pragati - Mudava Bhagamu' (Progress of Libraries - Part Three): Edited by P. Nagabhushanam (APLA, 1964). It contains the Presidential Addresses and Resolutions passed at the Conferences of the District and Taluks Library Associa-



tions.

(29) 'Grandhalaya Vargikaranamu' (Library Classification): By P. Vijayakumar (APLA, 1972).

(30) 'Grandhalaya Nirvahanamu' (Library Administration): By P. Nagabhushanam. (APLA, 1972). The Association helped the publication of this volume.

(31) 'Vajmaya Suchikaranamu' (Bibliography): By P. Nagabhushanam (Vijayawada, 1973). The Association assisted the publication of this volume.

(32) 'Grandhalayamulu (Vyasavali) - Mudava Bhagamu (Libraries: Essays - Part Three): Translated by P. Nagabhushanam (Vijayawada, 1973). A series of essays on librarianship, and the Association aided its Production and publication.

(33) 'Grandhalayalu Achukiseva' (Reference Service in Libraries): By P. Nagabhushanam (Vijayawada, 1975). This is a volume on Reference Service, and the Association helped its publication.

## (B) BOOKS ON ADULT EDUCATION

(1) 'Vayojana Vidya' in 3 Parts: By G. Hari Sarvottama Rao, 1941-49.

(2) 'Vayojana Vidya Bodhana Kramamu': By G. Hari Sarvottama Rao, 5th ed., 1967.

(3) 'Mapatalu,' Part I and II: By G. Ramachandra Rao, 1951. The Association helped its publication.

(4) 'Vayojana Vidya Vachakamu': By G. Hari Sarvottama Rao (Revised by Hari Adiseshuvu), 1967. The Association helped its publication.

(5) 'Vayojana Vidya Prabodha Geetalu': By K. D. Mallikarjuna Rao, 1952.

These books are very useful in conducting adult literacy programmes.

## (C) OTHER PUBLICATIONS:

The Association helped in the publication of 20 volumes by Goteti Jogiraju on all aspects of agricultural activity in Telugu language. This is a popular series

and provides a stable source of income for the Association. The undertaking of this publication has shown to the people that the Association is deeply interested in spreading information and in turn bring about the general welfare of the people. At the same time, such publications have contributed to the financial stability of the Association.

It published Annual Reports, and Proceedings of the Conferences. Annual Reports are basic documents of the Association. Volumes of the Proceedings of the Conferences contain papers presented at the conferences and summaries of speeches delivered. Both these documents are a veritable source of information. It has published various other books.

### Other Activities :

The Association passed a resolution condemning the decision of the Government prescribing the great social novel 'Malapalli,' by U. Laxminarayana.<sup>24</sup> Again, as we have already noted, it criticised the action of Government in prohibiting the adult literacy classes. It expressed grave concern for the imposition of restriction on freedom of speech in Hyderabad State and its consequences on library movement. It protested against restrictions and police interference with the activities of libraries in Telangana region.<sup>25</sup> It appealed to the Government to do away with the Durbar dress for the readers of Ooty public library. Thus, the Association showed some concern in upholding the principle of freedom of speech and expression, and written work.

At its Silver Jubilee Conference (Bezawada, 1938), the Association honoured Bh. Tirupati Raju, Ch. Narasimha Rao, G. Brahmanandam, K. Venkataraju, A. Seetamma, M. Gangayya, K. V. Ramanayya, G. V. Subbayya, Y.L.V. Ramana, I.V. Ramanayya, and S. Krishna Murti, for their services to library movement. The Association honoured M. Ramachandra Sastri, G. Hari Sarvottama Rao, M. Hanumantha Rao, Iyyanki Venkata Ramanayya, Bh. Tirupati Raju, N. Krishna Rao, and K.

Sitaramiah, eminent leaders of library movement. It gave prizes to the scientific and non-scientific books and for best book production at its conferences held at Suryapet.<sup>26</sup> It also honoured G. Jogiraju (a great agriculturist), K. Kondayya (a great scientist) and Y. Srimulu (a great veterinary doctor) at Vijayawada on 3rd June 1949.<sup>27</sup> The Association honoured Unnava Lakshminarayana (the author of 'Malapalli') and Cherukuvada Narasimham. The Association thus expresses and records its gratitude and appreciation for persons who render distinguished service to the library movement and the society.

The Association has a creditable record of achievements. The Association was responsible for commencing annual Government grants to public libraries in 1920 in Madras Presidency. It resolved that all publications of the government on health, agriculture, industries, lists of books and other official documents supplied to the village officers, may be freely distributed to all public libraries.<sup>28</sup> It demanded that the magic lanterns and other instruments available with the Department of Education may be lent to the libraries to educate people.<sup>29</sup> It advocated programmes to arrange lectures and demonstrations to educate scheduled caste people.<sup>30</sup> It suggested a programme for inter-library co-operation.<sup>31</sup> The teaching of Hindi language may be arranged in the libraries.<sup>32</sup> The libraries of Elementary Schools may be made accessible to the public.<sup>33</sup> It secured considerable reduction in the rates of subscription of 'Andhra Patrika' (Daily Newspaper) for libraries and reading rooms. It used the amount of interest annually accrued to the fund (Rs. 12,000/- donated by Valluri Suryanarayana of Kovvur) for sending books gratis to some libraries for some period. It demanded that teachers of schools under the control of local boards and Government, be permitted to attend to the library work during the leisure periods and vacations. It encouraged the rural libraries to publish pamphlets, prepare the history of villages and preserve the heritage of India (manuscripts, copper plates, ornaments and furniture,



etc.). It promoted a massive library movement in Andhra. It helped the establishment of a few thousands of libraries and reading rooms in Andhra. It was a pioneering organisation in creating facilities for education in librarianship. It obtained orders from the Government of Madras permitting the local bodies to establish public libraries, and join the A.D.L.A., as institutional members. It secured reduction of registration fees for libraries and reading rooms. It persuaded the Madras Government to adopt Madras Public Libraries Act, 1948. It played a leading role in formulating the Andhra Pradesh Public Libraries Act, 1960. It was responsible for the creation of a separate Directorate for libraries in 1961 in Andhra Pradesh. Its publications—professional and otherwise are noteworthy. Its conception of library movement as the centre-piece for national reconstruction is perhaps a relevant model for all developing societies.

The activities of the Association depicted above indicate that these were geared to the conditions prevailing in the region. Instead of confining its activities to the elite and urban centres of the society, the Association worked for the upliftment of the masses and rural areas. The mode of approach it adopted to popularise library movement is also noteworthy (e.g., bhajans, burrakathas, harikathas, spring festivals, book exhibitions, mobile libraries, use of magic lanterns, lecture tours, etc.). Its adult education activities are not only significant, but deserve and need large-scale support of the Government and the public. Its publication programme again is significant, especially its publication relating to agriculture. By undertaking this publication the Association has done a noteworthy contribution in informing people in a language intelligible to them all about agricultural activities. As more than 70% of our population is engaged in varied agricultural occupations, the efforts of the Association in this sphere are timely and highly utilitarian.

## NOTES

1. 'Grandhalaya Sarvaswamu,' Vol. IV, no date, p. 70.
2. Narasimham, S.V. Andhra Grandhalayodyamamu, 'Grandhalaya Sarvaswamu,' Vol. I, no date, p. 2.
3. Please see the following sources for a detailed account of the activities of mobile secretaries and publicists: 'Grandhalaya Sarvaswamu,' Vol. II, no date, p. 186 ff; Ibid, Vol. III, no date, p. 101 ff; 'Annual Reports of the Association,' No. 30, 31, 1943-45, p. 36 ff; No. 32, 33, 1945-47, p. 11 ff; No. 49, 50, 1962-64, p. 5 ff.
4. Ibid, No. 25, 1938-39, pp. 29-32.
5. Iyyanki Venkata Ramanayya, 'The Light of the Library,' (Ed.) V. Venkatappaiah, Vijayawada, 1973, p. 41.
6. Quoted by Iyyanki Venkata Ramanayya, Ibid, p. 42.
7. Ibid, p. 45.
8. Neelameghan, A. "Social Change and Library" in 'Seminar on Public Libraries,' December, 1972, USIS (Madras), The American Library, pp. 25-26.
9. Statement by G. Hari Sarvottama Rao at the Tenth All India Library Conference (1953). Quoted in 'Sarvottama Jivitam' (Life of Sarvottama Rao) M.V. Rao, APLA, Vijayawada, 1965, p. 216.
10. 'Grandhalaya Sarvaswamu,' Vol. II, no date, p. 189 ff; Vol. III, no date, p. 112 ff.
11. Adisesuvu, H. 'Sri Bhupatiraju Tirupatiraju' (Kumudavalli, 1971, pp. 93-95).
12. 'Grandhalaya Sarvaswamu,' Vol. IX, 1934, p. 14 ff; 1. Please refer to ibid, p. 3 ff; for Tadepallegudem Taluk library pilgrimage; Ibid, Vol. X, 1936, p. 114 ff; for Repalle Taluk library pilgrimage; Ibid, Vol. XI, 1937, p. 26 ff; for Second Tadepallegudem Taluk library pilgrimage: Venkataramanayya, Iyyanki. 'The Light of the Library' (ed): By Venkatappaiah, Velaga, Vijayawada, World Federation of Wisdom, 1973, pp. 49-50, gives a general account of library pilgrimages.
13. 'Grandhalaya Sarvaswamu,' Vol. X, No. 3 June, 1936, p. 113.
14. Venkata Ramanayya, Iyyanki 'Grandhalayodyama Charitra,' in 'Krishna Zilla Pradhama Grandhalaya Sadassu Pratyeka Sanchika,' Machilipatnam, Krishna District Local Library Authority, 1963; No pagination.
15. Nagabhushanam, Paturi, 'Neeti-Meedi Sanchara Grandhalayamu Yokka Samgraha Nivedika,' 'Grandhalaya Sarvaswamu,' Vol. 11, 1937; pp. 71-74.
16. Nagabhushanam, Paturi, 'Andhra Pradesh Grandhalayodyamamu,' Bezawada, APLA, 1957, p. 28.
17. Nagabhushanam, Paturi, (Ed.) Grandhalaya Pragati, Part I. Vijayawada, APLA, 1962, p. 146.



18. Ibid.

19. Ibid, p. 148; also see Nagabhushanam, Paturi (Ed.): 'Grandhalaya Pragati,' Part II, (Vijayawada, APLA, 1969), p. 195. Also see 'Annual Report of the Association for the year 1940-41,' Bezawada, APLA, 1941, p. 31.

20. Nagabhushanam, Paturi. (Ed.) 'Grandhalaya Pragati,' Part II, Vijayawada, APLA, 1969, pp. 198-200.

21. Hari Sarvottama Rao, G. 'Madarasu Paura Grandhalaya Chattamu—Dini Upayogarhamu Cheyutaku Chesina Krisi; 'Grandhalaya Sarvaswamu,' Vol. XV, 1954, pp. 8-9 and 12. The Association has passed 17 specific resolutions suggesting ways and means to improve the implementation of Public Libraries Act, at its 28th Conference (Chagalamarri, Kurnool District) held on the 21st and 22nd July, 1951. It has specially pointed out the need to separate the public libraries from the control of to separate the public libraries from the control of Public Instruction; See 'Iruvadi-Yenimidava Andhra Desa Grandhalaya Mahasabha,' Bezawada, ADLA, 1951, pp. 18-19.

22. Nagabhushanam, Paturi. (Ed.) 'Grandhalaya Pragati,' Part II, Vijayawada, ADLA, 1969, p. 207.

23. "Annual Reports and Records of the Association" are primary sources. Part of the data is taken from Bose, C. A.: 'A Study of the Andhra Pradesh Library Association,' Department of Adult Education (Teaching), University of Rajasthan, Jaipur, 1973-74.

24. Nagabhushanam, Paturi (Ed.): 'Grandhalaya Pragati,' Part I, Vijayawada, ADLA, 1962, p. 148.

25. 'Iruvadi-Yarava Andhra Desa Grandhalaya Mahasabha,' Kyaturu, 1946, Bezawada, ADLA 1947, p. 27.

26. 'Iruvadi-Edava Andhra Desa Grandhalaya Mahasabha,' Suryapeta, 1950, Bezawada, ADLA, 1957, pp. 6 and 11.

27. 'Grandhalaya Sarvaswamu' Vol. XIII, 1949, p. 23.

28. Library Conferences held in 1915, 1916, 1917, 1919, 1931, respectively Resolutions No. 3, 2, 3, 4 and 6.

29. Library Conference held in 1916, Resolution No. 2.

30. Library Conference held in 1919, Resolution No. 10.

31. Library Conference held in 1920, Resolution No. 3.

32. Library Conference held in 1923, Resolution No. 3.

33. Library Conference held in 1916, Resolution No. 2.

### CONCLUSIONS

Andhra Desa Library Association (which later became A.P.L.A. in 1957) is the first library association established in India. It is a voluntary body. Its principal office-holders are honorary and voluntary workers. All its assets—land, building, furniture, books, etc.—are raised by voluntary contributions. It is quite independent of Government patronage and control. It may not be wrong to conclude that it is a popular and voluntary association, mainly interested in promoting library movement and librarianship. It is chiefly responsible for creating a strong and wide base for library movement in Andhra Pradesh, and shaping the policies of Government on public libraries.

As we have pointed out in the second chapter, the origin and early phase of this Association was deeply embedded in the social and political turmoil of Andhra in the early decades of present century. In substance, the library movement was an integral part of the political and cultural renaissance of Andhra. We notice, that the leaders of library movement were deeply involved in the activities and programmes of Andhra Maha Sabha and the Indian National Congress. In fact, a good

number of the individuals who gave Presidential Addresses at the Andhra Grandhalaya Conferences (starting from Chilakamarti Laxmi Narasimham in 1914) were prominent political leaders. For the makers of this Association, library movement was an instrument of national reconstruction. Hence, they took keen interest in establishing rural libraries in villages. For them, like the ancient temple, the library was the centre of village life. Library was the source of new ideas and knowledge, the centre for adult literacy classes, dramas, sports, harikathas, and cultural activities. In some villages libraries were established in temple premises. Iyyanki Venkata Ramanayya and his followers in their new-found enthusiasm and political fervour, effectively combined traditional methods like the bhajans, spring festivals, etc. and the new methods of book exhibition, use of magic lanterns, public oratory, etc. to take the library movement to the masses and spread it into the country side. Undoubtedly, library movement gained popular attention and status. Hundreds of new libraries were established and library workers joined the movement.

This was not an unmixed blessing. The political fervour which unleashed the emotional outburst in support of library movement was not sustained for lack of professional abilities and necessary inputs for the libraries, namely, books, furniture, funds, etc. Similarly, lack of conducive environment, that is, (high percentage of literacy, regular reading habits, etc.) was a major drawback. The result was some of the libraries established with the support and encouragement of the Association declined soon. There is an element of truth in the statement of Dr. S.R. Ranganathan that "we see a few decaying remnants of a bumper crop of libraries that shot forth at the close of the last decade in the land of the Andhras, but soon got strangled partly as a result of the vicissitudes of political movement with which they got intertwined."<sup>1</sup> The political background of Andhra library movement was at once both its strength and weakness. The library movement generat-

ed popular enthusiasm and participation. It employed the traditional media and devised new methods of communication and reached the masses. It was really a people's movement. It was a multifaceted activity. This was the secret of the vigour and vitality of Andhra library movement. On the other hand, it was not supported by organisational abilities and zeal, funds, books, reading habits, etc. Certainly most of these libraries did not flourish long and function well. This is the weakness or bane of Andhra Library Movement.

It may be desirable to consider two points in order to gather a better perspective of the problem. First, what is the function of a library association? Is it concerned with stimulation of social conscience and attention of Government to the library movement? Or is it responsible for the proper management and working of all libraries, which it might have helped to set up, in its zeal to foster library movement? We think, the proper measure to judge a library association lies in its success or failure to generate social conscience and influence the policies of Government to promote public libraries. From this point of view, we find the Association succeeded creditably. The modern concept of public library was unfamiliar to the Indian society, especially in rural areas. The primary task of library movement in India was to arouse the desire for libraries among people. The A.P.L.A. created a strong and wide base for library movement. People slowly appreciated the value and importance of libraries. This is a remarkable achievement of the Association. Moreover, in a poor country, several demands are made upon the Government. Naturally, the Government tends to give low priority to the public libraries. The Association met this situation with admirable perseverance and foresight. It shaped the policies of Government on the public libraries. It is chiefly responsible for the strong support (financial and legal status) of the Government to the public libraries. The decline of some libraries should not be construed as the failure of the Association.



Secondly, India of those times had low literacy rate, weak reading habits, poor book production and reading materials, inadequate funds and lack of trained librarians. What was the right course to promote library movement in India of 1920? In the absence of such infrastructure to promote library profession in our country, the investigator feels that library movement in India may be village community centred activity. In order to gain and sustain popular support, it is desirable to associate library movement with social and cultural activities. Like the ancient temples, modern libraries may be seen as the centres of social and cultural activities. Libraries provide opportunities for everyone to educate himself/herself in the wider sense of the term, including the illiterate and neo-literate people. Libraries have to organise and promote cultural programmes to enable all citizens to become partners of cultural life of the community and enjoy the benefits of the advancement of arts and science. The A.D.L.A. encouraged the libraries to conduct literary activities, adult literacy classes, music concerts, dramas, games and sports, and the use of magic lanterns to teach the rural people principles of public health and sanitation, etc. In a sense, the image and role of public libraries upheld by the A.D.L.A. substantially embodies Articles 26 and 27 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.<sup>2</sup>

There is an element of truth in Ranganathan's criticism of A.D.L.A.'s political involvement and its sad consequences. Yet, Ranganathan failed to note the uniqueness of the role of A.D.L.A. It made library movement the centre of political and social renaissance. It earned remarkable popular legitimacy for library movement. An impressive programme of extension (educational) activities are carried out by the libraries in Andhra. Meetings and lectures by eminent persons on several aspects of economic and cultural life of the rural society are arranged by the libraries. Exhibitions of books, newspapers, manuscripts, and arti-facts archaeological (coins, copper plates, etc.) demonstrating the



culture of earlier epochs are held. Cultural festivals, birth and death anniversaries of national leaders are observed. Sports and debating competitions are conducted. All these extension activities popularised the library movement. Illiterate people and neo-literates are attracted to the libraries, and gradually they appreciated the value of libraries. Thus, long ago, A.D.L.A. advocated and implemented the concept that public libraries in poor countries may do well to function as social extension activity agencies.

The A. D. L. A. firmly believed that libraries are not sheltered units which provide book-lending services. On the contrary, libraries should educate the rural masses through adult literacy classes, lectures, news announcements, magic lanterns and other audio-visual aids. Libraries ought to become focal points of national literacy campaigns. They have to provide oral information and advice to the rural people on agriculture, industry, handicrafts, public health and sanitation, etc. Libraries carried out functional literacy programmes to improve the capacity of people, and thus enable them to act with confidence and competence on the reality of their living conditions. Libraries have become centres of social reform and welfare activities. Libraries have functioned as the centres of information, education and cultural activities. Both in conception and reality, library is the heart of local community. This is the image of public library advocated by the A.D.L.A. since 1920 under the leadership of Iyyanki. It is gratifying to note that the International Federation of Library Associations and the Library Association (U.K.) are promoting a similar concept of public Library,<sup>3</sup> which was upheld by the A.D.L.A. long ago.

This tempts us to examine the nature of library profession. Librarianship is considered to be a distinct profession. Its salient features are: a body of abstract knowledge, service orientation, professional autonomy and monopoly, etc. It holds that librarianship is a technical service with full trappings of professional status. This image of library profession is widely accepted and

well developed in the Western countries. The utility of this traditional concept of library profession is questioned and contested in the Western world.<sup>4</sup> It is pointed out that the traditional image of library profession is a static concept incapable of incorporating changes. It has failed to resolve the conflict between the community interests and professional autonomy, and meet the social responsibility of libraries to non-library problems.

We are more interested in examining the nature and value of library profession in the poor countries. During the colonial period and after achievement of independence, the developing countries adopted the Western model of public library system. The essence of librarianship lies in the professional skills, management and provision of library services to the educated persons. The librarian performs a passive role in his relationship with the clientele groups. There are several aspects of this professional model which are in basic conflict with the reality of the social and economic conditions of the poor countries. First, substantial parts of the people in poor countries (approximately, 70 to 80 per cent of the population) are illiterate masses. Naturally, the library profession is not capable of meeting the needs of illiterate people. Second, the people in the poor countries are deeply interested in the urgent problems of improving agricultural production and their living standards. They are not interested in reading and library services 'per se.' In order to draw the public into the library system, the library services have to be meaningfully geared to the pressing economic and social problems. The library profession is not oriented to this task. Third, people in the poor countries have very weak tradition of reading habits. Their poverty and unfamiliarity with the practice of regular reading, do not encourage them to avail the library facilities. In fact, the oral cultural media—meetings, lectures, dramas, music concerts, bhajans, harikathas, burrakathas, recitation of religious texts, etc.—is the live force of popular education in poor countries. Modern libraries, which are based on

the values of an autonomous profession, do not employ the traditional cultural media to reach the masses. Thus, we note the gap between the library profession and the social and economic conditions in the poor countries.

It is observed that any profession "as a social phenomenon, must interact with its environment".<sup>5</sup> This is the basis for our analysis of the model of library profession advocated by the A.D.L.A. The A.D.L.A. conceived that libraries are organic parts of the society. Libraries are social agencies to educate the public. Librarianship is not merely a technical profession or service. In a fundamental sense, it has a broad and rich meaning. It is an instrument to educate the public and promote social change and reforms, and stimulate economic growth. It is a sacred call to change the ways of thinking and action of the people in poor countries. This mission has to be fulfilled in the context of the social and economic conditions and attitudes prevalent in a given society. Precisely for this reason, the A.D.L.A. established rural libraries and promoted them as the centres of adult education, advisory agencies on matters relating to agriculture, handicrafts, etc., and centres of social and cultural renaissance. It employed with splendid success the traditional cultural media and modern audio-visual aids like the magic lanterns to educate the public. It directed its services to study, analyse and resolve (to some extent) the urgent social and economic problems of the community. All the resources of libraries—persons working in libraries, money, buildings, books, furniture, etc.—are voluntary contributions from the society. Indeed, the most distinguishing aspect of the A.D.L.A. is its ability to draw out the latent talent of the community, people in all fields (literary, sports, music, science, etc.) and use it in the service of library movement. There was an upsurge of local talents in every field, and this was employed to serve the society. The A.D.L.A. is a movement with far reaching consequences. Yet, it was economically very inexpensive. It used the talents and resources available in the society. This is a unique movement. It is worthy of emulation



in all poor countries. We may call it the 'open social system' model of library profession. Its basic aspects are :

- (1) Libraries are integral parts of the society ;
- (2) Librarianship is a multifaceted activity which analyses and helps the resolution of social and economic problems ;
- (3) The technical skills of Librarianship subserve the vital goals of social and economic change ;
- (4) Local talent and resources are used in library service ; and
- (5) The cultural media in combination with modern methods and techniques are used in extending the frontiers of library service.

The programmes and activities of the A.D.L.A. reflect these principles of library profession.

This is the tenor of Andhra Library Movement under the leadership of Iyyanki. This is the first phase of A.D.L.A. The second phase of Andhra Library Movement may be said to have commenced under the stewardship of Paturi. He has been the Secretary of A.D.L.A. from 1938. This is a period of consolidation for the Association. He is a trained librarian. He has rare organisational ability and service motivation. Under his leadership the Association got its own building. Its activities and programmes have slowly acquired professional character. The Association played a leading role in creating facilities for education in librarianship, promoting library legislation, protecting the interests of library staff, etc. The Secretary is a full-time voluntary worker. The Association failed to have either paid staff (for lack of funds), or develop a team of part-time workers to manage its affairs. This is a serious drawback of the Association.

The A.P.L.A. is a professional association. We may proceed to assess, how far it fulfills the qualities set out by Paton, W.B., and Jain, T.C., for professional library associations. It accepts library science as the basis for skills of librarianship and seeks to promote it by united efforts. It plays an appreciable role in promoting education



for librarianship. Indeed, it is devoted for the common advancement of library profession, and emphasises the social duty of librarianship. It has not evolved a code of professional conduct for library personnel. Like other library associations, its membership is open to all persons who are interested in libraries and library services. It has not developed norms to assess the professional status of members on the basis of proven competence, integrity, etc. These are the achievements and omissions of the Association in the light of Paton's prescription. It has accomplished most of the tasks laid down by Jain. For example, it established libraries and reading rooms, arranged lectures and seminars and thus publicised librarianship, worked for adoption of Library Acts, promoted professional education and fraternity, protected the interests of librarians, etc. Its inadequacy lies in the fields of improvement of library services and standardisation of library equipment, etc. In substance, it fulfills most of the attributes of Paton and Jain. Hence, the A.P.L.A. richly deserves the status of professional library association.

We may attempt a brief comparison of A.P.L.A. with that of the Library Association (U.K.), and American Library Association, in the realms of aims and objectives and activities. We take the aims of A.P.L.A. contained in the constitutions of 1918 and 1957 together. The aims of A.P.L.A. are similar to that of the aims of the L.A. For example: both the Associations are interested in establishing libraries and protecting the interests of librarians, promotion of education for librarianship, library legislation, professional literature, etc. Like the A.L.A., A.P.L.A. is interested in upholding the freedom of expression and writings of the individuals, and providing library facilities for all people. Both the L.A. and A.L.A. are interested in the improvement of library services, standardisation of library furniture, etc. They are also interested in the development of academic libraries—school, college and university libraries. The A.P.L.A. is not interested in these aspects of librarianship. This is a major limitation on the aspirations and

accomplishments of A.P.L.A. Perhaps, the distinction between the performance of A.P.L.A. and L.A. is partly due to the above cited drawback of A.P.L.A. Otherwise, granting the difference in the social, economic and technical environment of the L.A. and A.L.A. on the one hand, and the A.P.L.A. on the other, the activities and achievements of A.P.L.A. are not unworthy of comparison with that of Anglo-American Library Association.

Now let us examine the success or failure of the Association in terms of the fulfilment or non-fulfilment of its own objectives and aims.

It failed to establish and maintain a central library at Bezawada. Actually, it dropped this objective from its Constitution (1957). It has done precious little to develop literature, education, historical research, fine arts, etc., to enrich national heritage and individuality of Andhra. These were signal failures of the Association in the pursuit of its aims and objectives set forth in the Constitution of 1918. All other aims of the Association set in 1918 were ably fulfilled. It established a network of public libraries in Andhra, used magic lanterns; conducted mobile libraries; revived national customs; printed a directory of public libraries in Andhra; published a classified list of select books in Telugu literature; issued pamphlets (see for details the chapter on the Activities of the Association) to educate people and foster library movement. Some of these activities were well conducted in some parts of Andhra region for a period. Later on, most of the activities declined. The chief merit of the Association lies in designing and the able implementation of these activities for sometime. Its failure was to keep them on a continued basis or institutionalise these activities. It may be due to lack of funds or organisational ability. More deep lying factor may be, that the society was not very responsive and appreciative of these activities provided by the Association.

As we have noted in the second chapter, the Constitution of 1957 of the Association altered the aims and

objectives of the Association framed earlier. More ambitiously, the Association proclaimed that the promotion of libraries, Andhra Language and Culture among the Telugu-speaking people of India and World, is its concern. This aim was of some help (not very substantial) to domiciled Andhras in other Indian States in obtaining books in Telugu language for their libraries and reading rooms. Otherwise, this is a tall claim, with a single exception, namely, sending of books and journals to Andhra soldiers in South Africa. It did not conduct competitions for the growth of Andhra language and Library Science. It failed to maintain centres of information for the benefit of the public, and promote reading habits and ideal civic life among the people.

As against this, it has excellent record in training competent librarians and creating facilities for them, and in working for the proper implementation of Andhra Pradesh Public Libraries Act. It has distinguished records in realising both these objectives. It is curious to note that the Association failed to pursue the general (non-professional) objectives. It mainly fulfilled its professional aims in the period after 1957; whereas the reverse was true of the period before 1957. The Association is maintaining its educational programmes. Its interest in the implementation of Public Libraries Act is sustained.

We have analysed both the accomplishments and failures of the Association in the context of its professed aims and objectives. Even the aims and objectives of the Association (apart from their realisation) have obvious limitations. The Association did not seek to set standards for library services. It has altogether avoided the problems of libraries in schools, colleges and universities. It is solely confined to public libraries. This is a severe limitation on its activities and interactions with academic libraries. In spite of these limitations, the Association performed significant role in fostering library movement. Given the severe limitation of funds and resources, and also the environmental factors for library movement in India, our over-all impression is



that A.P.L.A. is an able and remarkable organisation. Its imprint is very clear on Andhra society and public life.

In conclusion, the investigator ventures to make some remarks to strengthen the A.P.L.A. It is sad to note that the Government of Andhra Pradesh has not given any support to the Association. The Advisory Committee for Libraries, Government of India (1959), recommended that "Library Associations are essential to the development of library movement and State Governments and Government of India should encourage development of strong library associations."<sup>6</sup> As pointed out by Prof. P.N. Kaula, the UNESCO Regional Seminar on Library Development in South Asia urged the participating governments to strengthen the library associations.<sup>7</sup> Till now, the A.P.L.A. is a voluntary association. The resources for voluntary contributions are on decline. It is difficult to imagine that the Association would be fortunate in future also to secure exemplary persons like Iyyanki and Paturi (who are full-time honorary Secretaries without pay and office assistants) to the position of Secretary. Undoubtedly, A.P.L.A. is an illustrious body, and the Government of Andhra Pradesh owes it to the public to support this illustrious organisation. We suggest that the Government should implement the recommendations of Sinha Committee Report (1959). The Committee recommended that the Government should give grants to the library associations for three purposes: (1) Rent for premises of headquarters office; (2) Remuneration for one whole-time or part-time Secretary, or office clerk; and (3) Projects of general usefulness to library movement which the Government may like to sponsor.<sup>8</sup> We may also note that Special Publication of IASLIC on Library Associations in India (1966) has strongly urged the need for the sanction of statutory grants and provision of full-time staff for the library associations.<sup>9</sup> Furthermore, the Government should associate the Association more intimately with the working of public libraries, and use the expertise of the Association in the field of adult edu-



cation. The Government may also support the publication programme of the Association.

In the last thirty years, the academic libraries have grown in numbers. It is desirable that the Association may incorporate into its objectives the goal of promotion of academic libraries. It may study the various problems of academic libraries. This will widen the base of the Association and also improve its professional competence. As suggested by Prof. P.N. Kaula (to the Library Associations in India), the Association may apply itself to tackle the following problems in future :

"Coordination of professional activities at various levels; creation of organised secretaries at...headquarters; Removal of multiplicity of subscriptions; Maintenance of a.....State-wise register of librarians; Participation of professionals in the activities at all levels; strengthening of a federated body at an All-India level; and Provision of substantial grants from the State and Central Governments." <sup>10</sup>

These new goals and programmes will direct the Association to challenging aspects of librarianship.

The Association has a large component of non-professional members who play critical role in its affairs. Given the historical context of the development of the Association, this is a natural condition. It implies that the professional elements are weak partners of the Association. Furthermore, the Association has experienced a continuous conflict of perception of its problems and organisational structures, approaches and techniques of librarianship among its non-professional and professional members. It is an essential prerequisite that professional elements must be strengthened for the advancement of the Association. All the librarians working in the public and academic libraries may be induced to join the Association by the provision of adequate representation to the professional members on the Executive Council including the principal offices of the Association.

Lastly, public institutions like the local bodies, co-operative societies, and educational institutions have enor-

mously increased in numbers in the last thirty years. It is good for the Association to improve its institutional membership by offering corporate/life membership to these public institutions at a concessional rate of membership fees. This may give stability and assured income to the Association.

## NOTES

1. Quoted in 'The Hindu,' Madras, dated 14-8-1933. The Statement is taken from Ranganathan, S.R. 'Five Laws of Library Science,' Madras, M. L. A., 1931.

2. Art. 26: 'Every one has a right for education.' Art. 27: 'Every one has the right freely to participate in the cultural life of the community, to enjoy the arts and to share in scientific advancement and its benefits.' Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

3. 'UNESCO Public Library Manifesto, Modified by the Public Libraries Division of IFLA (1972),' 'UNESCO Bulletin for Libraries,' Vol. XXVI, No. 3, May-June, 1972, pp. 129-131. 'Library Association Record,' December, 1971, pp. 233-34.

4. Goode, William J. 'The Librarian: From Occupation to Profession.' 'Library Quarterly,' Vol. XXXI, Oct. 1961, pp. 306-20. See Hanks, Gardner and Schmidt, James, C. 'An Alternative Model of a Profession for Librarians,' 'College and Research Libraries,' Vol. XXXVI, No. 3, May 1975, pp. 175-187.

5. Hanks, Gardner and Schmidt, James C., op. cit., p. 181.

6. Report of Advisory Committee for Libraries 1959, Ministry of Education, Government of India, Chairman: K.P. Sinha, Delhi, 1959, p. 62.

7. Kaula, P.N. 'Library Development in South Asia,' 'Library Herald,' Vol. III, 1959-60, p. 132.

8. Op. cit., p. 62.

9. 'Problems and Prospects of Library Associations in India,' I.A.S.L.I.C. Special Publication No. 6, Part II, Calcutta, 1966.

10. Kaula, P.N. 'Library Associations in India,' 'UNESCO Bulletin for Libraries,' Vol. XXIV, No. 6, Nov.-Dec. 1970, p. 325.



